

# MICHIGAN FARMER

VOL. VIII.

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VOL. VIII.

WARREN ISHAM, EDITOR.

No. 1, New Series.

## NEW VOLUME.

With the present number we commence a new volume of the Farmer. This measure has been resolved upon in consequence of the vast increase of our subscribers, and the consequent exhaustion of our entire stock of surplus numbers, although we printed several hundred of them of each number, for the accommodation of new subscribers. The volume commencing on the 1st of Jan. last, will terminate on the 1st of Jan. next, with an index, for the present list of subscribers, and the new volume commencing with the present number, will terminate at the expiration of one year from its commencement, with an index for the accommodation of new subscribers.

And we want you all, who feel any interest in the great cause of agricultural improvement, to make a little effort just now to extend the circulation of the Farmer in your respective neighborhoods—just as much effort as you can, without infringing upon your own private affairs. You see what we are doing to raise the agricultural interest, the great foundation interest of our State, and place it on a basis of permanent prosperity—but we can accomplish nothing without readers, nor anything considerable, without multitudes of readers, thousands upon thousands in addition to those we now have. Shall we have them? Read the present number through, and tell us whether you can fold your arms and sit quietly down, while such multitudes around you are groping their way in agricultural darkness and see no light? Can you do it? Do we not need an entire revolution in the agriculture of our State? Shall we not have it?

If the following notice of the Michigan Farmer, appeared in the February number of the "American Farmer," published at Baltimore. The "American Farmer," we think, is the oldest agricultural paper in the Union, was a long time under the charge of the veteran Skinner, and still maintains its place in the very front rank:

"Michigan Farmer.—This sterling agricultural journal, published at Detroit, Michigan, was, on the first of January, changed from a semi-monthly to a monthly period-

ical. It is Edited by Warren Isham, Esquire, with industry, taste, judgment and talents. Besides the original editorial matter, which is always written with ability its columns are well-filled with able original articles. On New Year's day it came out in a new and improved dress, and we sincerely trust that this renewed effort to render his excellent paper the more acceptable, will stimulate his patrons to action, and thus secure an enlarged circulation; for we are very sure that they could not do a more acceptable service to the State, as a vehicle so competent to diffuse useful practical, as well as scientific knowledge, must, in the same ratio as its sphere of usefulness may be increased, augment and give form to those elements which impart strength to communities."

## NOTES BY THE WAY—No. 63.

BY THE EDITOR.

*Cook's Prairie.*—Six or seven miles to the south of Marengo, Calhoun county, where we left the reader in our last, is Cook's prairie, named originally from Dea. Cook, who has a magnificent farm, with some four hundred acres improvement upon it, after having given three or four good sized farms to his sons. This, however, is more properly a burr oak plain, than a prairie, there having been originally burr oaks scattered over most of it, and the soil, in its characteristics, being more nearly on the burr oak than the prairie order. It is a delightful plain, of a mile and a half or two miles in extent, each way, with a deep, rich, remarkably productive soil, and covered all over with beautiful farms, some of which we regret we have no space to notice in detail.

Two or three of the Cooks put in their wheat last fall, or a considerable portion of it, with the drill, and the difference between the drilled and undrilled portions is quite as striking as that mentioned in our last, showing greatly in favor of the former. We fear, however, that some of it is too thickly stocked. One bushel of seed per acre is abundant.

The pleasant village of Homer, the capital of

the prairie, is located on the East end of the plain, and is quite a little centre of business. About a mile and a half from the village, is the thrifty and well furnished nursery of Weatherwax & Coon, which we visited, and found ourselves most agreeably entertained. Mr. Weatherwax is certainly a very intelligent horticulturist; we gathered some things from him which will be found under our horticultural head.

FARM OF J. B. MARSH, ESQ.

Not far from the road leading from Homer to Marshall, and about four miles from the latter, in the township of Eckford, is the farm of Mr. J. B. Marsh, which, though not extensive, nor of a *very* rich soil, is made, by good husbandry, very productive and profitable.

Mr. M. is a systematic, thorough-going, scientific, and, of course, successful farmer. He keeps regular farm accounts, and knows what is the net profit on every crop he raises, and how the matter stands with him at the year's end. His farm consists of about one hundred and thirty acres improvement, which is subjected to a judicious system of rotation, and thus kept in heart. He is in the habit of spreading the straw of his grain crops upon the ground, and plowing it under.

*Profits of a first crop.*—Mr. M. had a field of thirty-six acres, which he had cleared off, fenced, grubbed, broken up, and put into wheat, and as the avails of it he realised sufficient to pay all the expense of clearing, fencing, grubbing, and putting in the wheat, &c., and had a hundred and fifty dollars besides. The field yielded at the rate of twenty-seven bushels to the acre, and the wheat sold at 80 cents per bushel. Thus he had a hundred and fifty dollars to put in his pocket, while his land was worth at least five dollars per acre more than it was before.

*Profit on sheep.*—Mr. M. keeps the common woolled sheep, realizes about a dollar a head for their fleeces, and after they are shorn frequently sells them at two dollars per head to the butchers, as his sheep are always fat, and in demand for slaughtering.

*Saving grass seed.*—He is in the habit of saving the grass seed, clover and timothy, which shells out in the mangers, and which is not so trifling in amount as many would imagine. In a single winter he saved enough in this way to seed ten acres. Another way he has of saving grass seed, is worthy of imitation. There will always

be more or less timothy among wheat sown upon timothy, or clover and timothy sod, and while the wheat crop is thus frequently materially injured, no one, to our knowledge, has ever thought of making reprisals upon the timothy. Mr. M. however, has a way of doing this. By a little additional apparatus to his sowing mill, the timothy seed is all sifted out, and deposited by itself. One year he obtained twenty-six bushels of timothy seed in this way, from sixteen acres of wheat, which he sold at one dollar per bushel.

*Chestnut trees.*—Mr. M. has done his country "some service," in a little experiment he has been making with chestnut trees. "Chestnut trees won't grow in Michigan," is still the almost universal cry—a cry as ridiculous as was that which was heard in every part of the commonwealth, a few years ago, that *clover would not grow in Michigan!* Three years ago, we think it was, he brought on a few chestnuts from the east, and planted them in the fall. The next spring they came up, and grew tolerably, and the succeeding winter they were killed down pretty much to the ground. The spring following they came up again and have grown thrifly, and have never been affected by the frost since the first winter. They are now fine thrifty trees, and are in great demand at two shillings a piece. He had about three hundred of them, and all that were large enough to transplant, have been sold at the above price. He remarked that if his garden was full of them, he could sell the whole without any difficulty. We remarked to him that complaint had been made that dried chestnuts would not germinate. He said they must be brought from the east before they were dried, and that they would not spoil in bringing them to Michigan, green.—But we need not go east for chestnuts; any quantity of them can be obtained in the fall at the Wayne depot, on the Central Railroad. It is surprising that more pains have not been taken to cultivate this beautiful tree in those parts of the State where timber is scarce, as it is the most useful of all the trees of the forest for rail timber, and is of rapid growth.

*Butter a year old.*—Nothing puts us in better humor than to find among the indispensables and luxuries of the table, a nice clean cake of butter, of a rich, yellow color, hard and brittle, and of that peculiar flavor, so agreeable to the taste, which always characterises good sweet butter, and with such we were served at Mr. M's, and

what made it the more to be admired, it was made and put down a year ago last month. It was as nice and sweet as though just packed. The only thing peculiar about the making and packing, was, a due regard to cleanliness, and thoroughness in separating the buttermilk in the manufacture, and exclusion of the air in packing the butter, we think simply by means of a covering of brine.

We intended visiting other parts of the country, particularly the neighborhood of Albion and Battle Creek; the latter especially, inasmuch as it is this year the banner Post Office of the State, about one hundred copies of the Michigan Farmer being sent to that office alone; but we were necessitated, from lack of time, to postpone our good intentions.

#### NOTES BY WAY...No. 64

BY THE EDITOR.

In a brief interview we had the other day, with E. Arnold, Esq., whose farm is situated about a mile west of Dexter, we gathered some things which probably would not be altogether void of interest to our readers. Mr. A. is a young farmer, but he seems to have begun right, and that is more than half of the battle.

*His flock of sheep.*—Mr. A. has recently brought from Vermont a flock of full blood Paular Merinoes, 77 in number. He left with us specimens of the wool, and it combines, we should think, in an eminent degree, the qualities of length, strength, and fineness, some of it being very long, and at the same time very fine. The entire flock of 77, of which 70 are only one year old, and the remaining 7 two years old, averaged five pounds per head the present season. The 7 two years old, averaged six and a half pounds per head. He expects to realize two dollars a fleece, for the whole, and forty cents per pound would make it.

It is certainly gratifying to witness the efforts which are making to elevate the character of our flocks in different sections of the State. See the communications in our present number.

*Improvement of exhausted lands.*—A few years ago Mr. A. purchased the farm where he now resides, containing 96 acres, with a fair proportion under cultivation, at five dollars per acre, and he was laughed at and called fool for paying that price, and told that he could do nothing with

it—that it was good for nothing, so completely was it exhausted and run down. But he purchased it, and went to work to renovate it. It had been skimmed over with one yoke of oxen, but he put on a heavy team, and put his plow in nine or ten inches deep, and cut out the grubs, and the first year his wheat crop averaged 27 bushels to the acre, and he had never taken off a poor crop of anything. He says he has no difficulty in growing eighty bushels of corn to the acre. He always plants upon sod, and finds his account in it on the score of weeds, it requiring very little labor to keep it clean.

*Once plowing for wheat.*—He has given up the old system of summer-fallowing, as imposing burdens too grievous to be borne, without any corresponding advantage. In carrying out that system, a man must delve like a slave all summer long, and wear out his team under the scorching heat of the sun, and all for nothing, and worse than nothing, for far greater results were realized by once plowing to a suitable depth, and turning under clover.

*Wheat and sheep.*—Wheat-growing and sheep-growing, he said, should go together. As much wheat could be raised, on forty acres well sheeped, as on seventy-five acres not sheeped. The avails of the sheep might be considered clear gain, as the benefit they would be to the farm would pay well for their keeping—and so we have uniformly taught.

And now that we are upon this subject, we will give the substance of many facts related to us by Mr. Blanchard, of the Kinderhook wool depot, when here, in reference to this subject. In his tour, he had passed through the great wool-growing districts in western Pennsylvania and Ohio, and he had upon his note-book memoranda of the number of sheep kept on several farms, which was from 250 to 300 to every 100 acres of improved land; and also of the different kinds of grain, wheat being the principal, raised upon the same; and appended was the recorded testimony of the proprietors, that they could raise more grain, with that number of sheep on their farms, than without them.

*Insect upon potato vines—an experiment.*—Mr. Bradley, of Northville, in this county, observed, last year, a small striped bug upon his potato vines, when they were five or six inches high, being about the first of June, in great numbers, and at the same time the top of the vines began to

**turn black.** As soon as the vines had attained to full size, he cut two rows of them (with a scythe, we suppose,) down to the ground, leaving the others standing. The consequence was, that of six bushels, the yield of the two rows, not a peck were affected with the rot, while of the balance of the field more than half were rotten.

**Corn-stalk fodder--valuable experiment.**—As the hay crop in our State will be, in great measure, cut off, it behooves our farmers to be casting about for a substitute. Mr. S. Haven, of Trenton, made an experiment with corn-stalk fodder last year, and from the account he gave us of the result, we should think it would form the best resort to which our farmers could betake themselves in the emergency which is upon them.—He sowed a half a bushel of corn broadcast, upon 60 rods of ground, (three-eighths of an acre,) and harvested fodder enough to winter two cows. The great difficulty has been to cure corn-stalk fodder, on account of its succulence, so that it will not spoil in the stack or mow; and another difficulty has been, that in drying it sufficiently, the leaves would become crisp, and crumble. But he has a way of avoiding both of these difficulties. At the proper time for harvesting, he enters the field with sickle or hook, and “shocks” or “stooks” it up as he cuts it, without binding, some ten or fifteen stalks being left where he wishes each “shock” to stand, to serve as a centre, around which he sets up handfull after handfull, until it becomes sufficiently large, when the top is compressed together, doubled over, and bound, in which condition it will shed rain like a shingled roof. And there it remains until it is foddered out, and when the “stooks” are opened they are found perfectly cured, and, though dry, of as green a color as when cut, and both leaves and stalks soft and pliable, the former being capable of being tied into knots, instead of being crisp and crumbly. His stock were remarkably fond of it, and never did better on any kind of fodder. At the above rate, and acre of this kind of fodder would keep five cows.

His was sown early in the season, but it is not too late now. There is abundance of time for the stalks to attain to their full height, between this and the middle of September.

By the way, why is it that so few of our farmers have adopted this method of curing hay, especially clover, (that is, curing it in the cock, when, by so doing, they can preserve all its

greenness, freshness, plianleness, sweetness, and fragrance, making it far more palatable, as well as nourishing to stock, and effecting a great saving in point of economy, there being nothing lost by crumbling—no dust, nor smoke (as it never moulds) to give horses a cough, and nothing left in the shape of orts—all is eaten.)

#### A SHALLOW OBJECTION TO DEEP PLOWING...PHILOSOPHY OF IT.

Notwithstanding all the great and renovating effects which have resulted from deep plowing there are those among us, and those, too, who have gone down so little way into the subject that they know little or nothing about it, who yet undertake to philosophize very gravely against the practice. These persons boldly assert that if you turn under clover or other manure ten inches deep, its fertilizing elements, upon being decomposed, will be carried down, by the descending rain water, into the bowels of the earth, while the plant will be left to starve on the barren earth which has been turned up.

Now all this looks very plausible, and would doubtless be very satisfactory to one who had not gone *deep* enough into the subject to understand it. But those who have, *know* better, both from philosophy and fact. In the first place, then, we would ask, is it really and philosophically true that the fertilizing elements of manure turned under, are carried downwards, by the descending rain water, beyond the reach of the searching roots of vegetables, to any appreciable extent? Our philosophy says no. It teaches that the tendency of these elements is upwards. It teaches us, that the rain water, which sinks into the earth to a given depth, is constantly returning to the surface, through the influence of *capillary attraction*, bringing with it, in solution, the fertilizing elements it meets in its way. If you ask, “what is capillary attraction?” Suppose you take a piece of dry sponge, and just touch the under side of it to the surface of water contained in a vessel, holding it in that position a few moments—you will find, upon examination, that it is as full of water as it can hold. This is what we call *capillary attraction*, viz: the tendency of a fluid to ascend through small tubes or pores. The soil itself furnishes an illustration of this principle, in the time of drouth, when forces itself upon the observation of every one. Why is it, that in a drouthy, sandy, and loose

our soils, are found to be full of moisture, while adjoining clay soils are dried and baked almost like a brick bat! But one answer can be given to this question, viz: that loose and porous soils, like the sponge, facilitate the ascent of water from beneath, upon the principle of *capillary attraction*, while stiff clay soils afford no such facilities, by reason of their compactness.

Of course, the ascending water will carry up with it whatever it holds in solution, and thus the manure, which is turned under, will find its way up to the roots of plants long before they will find their way down to it. And besides, what are called the four organic elements, oxygen, nitrogen, hydrogen, and carbonic acid, which constitute nine-tenths of all plants, being gases in their decomposed state, their natural tendency is to ascend.

Again, when land is plowed ten or twelve inches deep, it is not all turned over; much of it falls back into the furrow, while the balance of it lies in an oblique position, and a portion of the surface soil will be near the surface still, insomuch that it will be in some degree mixed with the upturned subsoil, by passing over the ground with a drag or cultivator.

Once more: the young plant, in the first stages of its growth, feeds upon the decomposed elements of the kernel itself; but those elements in the kernel which seem to be so congenial to the nature, and suited to the wants of the infant plant, such as lime, phosphoric acid, and magnesia, are found far more abundantly in the subsoil, than in the surface soil. And thus the very food which the plant will need for the perfection of its berry, as well as its growth, is made accessible.

In view of these considerations, then, we see nothing so very astonishing in the mighty results of deep plowing. Rather might we be astonished if such results did not follow.

Not that deep plowing is an infallible specific against the failure of a crop. There may be causes which will contribute to such a result, *in spite of deep plowing*; and when there is stagnant water in the subsoil, deep plowing itself will contribute to such a result, as we have repeatedly taught. And when such a case occurs, O what a mighty argument is made of it against deep plowing!—the testimony of the best farmers in the country, the testimony of philosophy and fact, to the contrary, notwithstanding!

Let skeptics upon this subject but read the accounts given, in the Michigan Farmer, particularly in our "Notes by the Way," from time to time, showing the wonderful effects of deep plowing, and if they have a particle of candor or common sense left, all their skepticism will soon be put to flight. We have given facts enough in our present number to settle the question forever.

Of the various ways in which deep plowing acts favorably upon the growing crop, we have treated somewhat at large on former occasions, and need not repeat them here—our object simply being to meet the objections specified above.

#### ACTION OF PLASTER...QUESTION ANSWERED.

For the Michigan Farmer.

PLYMOUTH, June 16th, 1850.

Mr. Isham:

Dear Sir: For some reason unknown to me, my June number of the Michigan Farmer is in arrears, and I cannot bear the idea of not having my book complete. I am not a farmer, but have settled on a worn-out farm, with but very little practice and experience for my guide; you can judge, therefore, how I miss my monthly visitor from your office.

One inquiry—are there any of the grass or grain crops injured by an injudicious use of plaster?

We have suffered materially by dry weather, but our present rains will benefit the filling of the wheat much.

Yours respectfully,  
J. W. HODGKIN.

R E P L Y.

We think not—certainly not by any such application as would be likely to be made to the lands of Michigan, at the present price of the article—and we had almost said, and think we may say with safety, not by any application which would be likely to be made under any circumstances, for the plain and simple reason that it can do neither good nor hurt, until it is dissolved (decomposed,) and it cannot be dissolved without water, and enough of it—the quantity required being four hundred parts to one of plaster. Very often, a half bushel, sown upon an acre, is not dissolved in a season, there not being rain enough to decompose it. Of course, a portion of it lies over, undissolved, and hence the fact, that sometimes the effect is greater the second year after the application than the first; and hence, too the

fact that it generally continues to act, in a greater or less degree, the second and third years, and even longer.

One of the principal ways in which plaster acts in promoting vegetable growth, as we have repeatedly said, is doubtless by arresting the ascent of ammonia, which is constantly evaporating from the earth, with water, into the atmosphere. The plaster, sulphate of lime, is composed of sulphuric acid and lime, and when dissolved, separated, the sulphuric acid unites with the ammonia as it rises to the surface of the earth, forming sulphate of ammonia. Thus the ammonia becomes fixed, and is retained upon the surface of the earth, to become the food of plants.

If any one doubts the power of plaster thus to absorb and fix ammonia, he can very readily satisfy himself by strewing it upon a putrifying carcass, or upon a compost heap, from which white fumes are seen to rise.

And certainly there is no danger of plaster acting injuriously in this way, for if all the ammonia which is brought down with the rain and snow, as they meet it in the atmosphere in their descent, were prevented from making its escape back again, it would not be more than enough to give a healthy and vigorous growth to vegetation.

We might go on to particularize the different ways in which plaster is supposed, with good reason, to act; and show, in each case, that quite as little is to be apprehended from any excess of it in the soil, resulting from any application of it which our farmers would be likely to make.—ED.

**To Correspondents—Well done.**—In our present number are between thirty and forty communications, and they are from nearly every considerable county in the State; from Wayne, Oakland, Washtenaw, Monroe, Lenawee, Hillsdale, Macomb, Genesee, Lapeer, Ingham, Livingston, Calhoun, Kalamazoo, St. Joseph, Cass, Barry, and Ionia—all good, excellent, and some laid over for the next number into the bargain. Honor to the noble band!

**To our delinquent subscribers.**—What is the reason that we do not get a fair proportion of the more than half a million of dollars which the wool crop of the present season puts into the pockets of our farmers? Can any of our subscribers who are in arrears, answer this question? All we ask, gentlemen, is a fair chance with the rest of them.

*For the Michigan Farmer.*

## WHEAT-GROWING...No. II.

Mr. Editor:

I have been waiting for a rainy day, to write a short article for your paper in continuation of the subject of wheat-growing, but I have waited in vain. We have had no rain, except three slight showers, the 5th, 7th, and 14th insts., since the 6th of May. The ground was then dry for the season. The effect of the drouth is so visible on shallow-plowed wheat fields, that it would be unnecessary for me or any one else to write a word upon the subject, if the farmers were here (or elsewhere, where the two methods, deep and shallow plowing, were practiced,) to convince them which of the two would be most to their advantage. But as some have not seen or noticed the effect on the crop, and others may want "line upon line and precept upon precept" before they deviate from old and established customs, I will give a short history of the cropping of two of my fields, which must convince all that it is not over-cropping with wheat, nor unfavorable seasons, that has reduced the average product per acre to ten bushels, as our State statistics show.

I would here remark, that as wheat has been with me a sure and profitable crop, nearly all my farm that is adapted to its growth, has been kept in wheat, to the exclusion of other grain crops. One field has been summer-fallowed and sown to wheat every other year for 17 years, with but two exceptions; once in oats and 1 year in pasture. There has never been any manure or other fertilizers put on, except a slight dressing of plaster, when in wheat; yet the average product per acre for the whole time would vary but little from thirty bushels. Last season it was in wheat, and although it was sown the last day of September, and the season unfavorable, insomuch that the wheat crop was generally considered a failure, the yield was over 24 bushels per acre.

One other field, containing 11 acres and 140 rods of ground, designated on my farm map as No. 1, (I mention this because I may speak more particularly of this field hereafter,) has been cleared, a part of it 25 and a part 21 years, and been cropped after the old shallow, skinning system until nine years ago; corn and peas had been grown upon it the previous year. It contains a great variety of soils—clay, clayey loam, gravelly loam, sandy loam, and about two acres a deep vegetable mould, resting on a sub-soil of stiff, clayey loam. This part was wet, swampy land, reclaimed by under-drains. I had become thoroughly convinced, by repeated experiments on other fields, of the benefit of deep and thorough cultivation, and had now concluded to try it on this. About 40 loads of coarse, barn-yard ma-

nure, 2 or 3 loads from the hog pen, and a load of leached ashes, were put on the poorest places.—This is all the manure the field ever received, except clover and plaster. The manner of plowing I will describe; it is the way that I generally plow for wheat, except that I now plow but once for a crop. The ground was very dry and hard, the plow a large one, Mason's No. 5, the team three yoke of good oxen and a pair of heavy horses forward. The plow was constructed so as to run down to the beam, and when it would not run there of itself, a man stood on the beam to keep it there. All the ground that escaped the plow, around stumps and stones, was afterwards dug up with a shovel. It was harrowed and plowed shallow twice afterwards, the same way of the furrow.

After the wheat was sown, deep furrows were plowed in every dead furrow, and cleared out to the depth of about sixteen inches. These drains were about three rods apart. After the first rain, these drains were examined and cleared out so as to let the water run off. Now for all this labor I received 516 bushels of good wheat. The next year the field lay in pasture; the next summer fallowed with a heavy growth of clover plowed under, and sown again the next season.

After the wheat came off, it was fallowed and sown again; last season clover was again plowed under, and it is now in wheat, and is as promising a piece as is seldom seen.

Of the three crops harvested, notwithstanding about two acres of the last crop was totally destroyed by winter, insects, and rust, in consequence of the under-drain becoming stopped in the winter, the yield was at the rate of 42 bushels per acre. If any one should wish to try an experiment, who has not teams or plow sufficient, let him plow twice in the same furrow, putting the guide pin on the side of the beam and lengthening the chain so as to plow the second furrow deep. I plowed some so this spring to the depth of 14 inches. I had intended to have given the total expense of putting in a crop of wheat in the way that I have mentioned, but I have not time; for Professor Johnson has truly said, in his lectures before the New York Agricultural Society, speaking of improvement in agriculture, that "unless you can show the practical farmer, that this will tell on his pocket, you will scarcely prevail on him to give it his attention; but when he convinces himself that such and such a process of tillage, or manuring will equally enrich him, then he is ready enough to follow your suggestions."

#### LINUS CONE.

P.S. Friend Isham, will you, or some of your correspondents, tell us why the practice so universally prevails of sowing wheat and rye together?—Is it to add to the crop, or to hide the living wheat from view?

L.C.

#### YELLOW DOCK—"THE NATUR OF THE CRITTUR"—REMEDY.

For the Michigan Farmer.

Mr. Isham:

In the March number of the Farmer, P.B. asks information how effectually to destroy the milk weed. In the April number, B. Holmes answers, and in his turn asks P.B., or any one else, to let him know how to extirpate what is commonly called the yellow, or sour dock.

When I read this last request, I thought that if no other person answered it, I would endeavor to do so. For, though I have been, for the last sixteen years, at open war with that ever-living enemy of the farmer, and as yet see no prospect of a termination of the contest, yet I feel confident that if a neighborhood of *farmers*, and only farmers, would follow my directions, and act unitedly, they could thoroughly root out and extirpate him from their borders. The difficulty arises, not from a want of knowledge of the ways and means by which he strengthens himself, but from a want of combined effort and never-tiring vigilance.

When the May number came I looked it over, and finding no answer to B. H. I resolved to answer it in season for the June number; but a multiplicity of cares and labors unjustly heaped upon me, in addition to my customary share, prevented my doing it. But now, though late, and although I fall under the just censure of your correspondent F. Danforth in the June number, I propose to give a brief statement of the course I pursue with that pestiferous plant—one of the worst enemies that the farmer has to contend with, for it grows luxuriantly on any soil, and produces an exuberant crop of seed—not 30, 60, or an hundred fold only, but a thousand fold, and more, and sometimes two crops in one season, and the next spring the old root is as vigorous as ever, and will continue to bear on forever, for sugh I know. These seeds, if allowed to fall to the ground, will vegetate the same season, and the following year be ready to produce seed, and so go on increasing in an unlimited ratio. Add to this that the root may be divided a number of times, and each part form a separate plant that will produce seed.

Mr. Editor, indulge me a little longer. I have somewhat more to say of the plant than I at first intended. For I wish to impress upon the minds of careless farmers the necessity of vigilance, *perpetual* vigilance, in destroying this noxious weed. It is best suited with moist lands, but having a long tap root it will thrive on any land, and never suffer from drought. The seed is cut with bay and carried to the barn, whence it is carried out into the yard, to defile the manure, with which it is carried to all parts of the farm, the

meadow, the cornfield, and the garden. It is carried in hay along the road, and scattered there and suffered to grow unmolested. It is carried from farm to farm, and the buyer is unwittingly made the recipient of an evil, which in a true appreciation, would counterbalance the good.

The true mode of procedure is, to pull up the plants before they have ripened their seed, and burn them. The roots should never be thrown on the ground, for they contain sufficient within themselves to nourish them till they can send fibrous roots to the earth. They contain sufficient nourishment to ripen the seed, even if the stalks are in a backward state. Begin as early as the leaves first start enough to roots are, with mattock in hand; the whole root, and burn them; grow till the seed stalk is strong, then pull them up by, and then begin the operation in earnest, with mattock; dig up such roots as may, unroot; and, having a boy with a pitchfork, go through the mown lanes, along the fences, inside and outside, and along the highways you have any, as often as once a week till late in the fall, and destroy every branch in the fire. If you overlook one, and it should ripen, be extremely careful when you pull it up, scatter a seed on the ground, let it set tight, and no more scatter it than you would let a pistol fire than you would let a pistol field.

By following these directions, we hope, in time to use up the seed, collecting them, we may be sure from year to year, till it uses up.

A few words more, and I will desist. Lest, after all diligence, some seed should remain some scattered, go to mow your grass, keep a sharp look-out for enemies, and find now and then a plant that deserves notice. If the seed be ripe, pull it up with your hand, being careful.

on the ground to trouble you another year, and carefully deposit the seed in your pocket, or handkerchief, and when you have opportunity commit it to the flames, and destroy the root.— Some seed may, after all your care, get cut with your hay, and carried to the barn. If you find any there, save it with care for the fire.

EPHRAIM S. WALKER.

**DEEP PLOWING.**—A correspondent writing from St. Joseph Co. says: "The wheat upon deep plowed ground looks well, but that upon light plowed looks bad, from the effects of the drought;" and such is the universal testimony.

### LETTER FROM A YOUNG FARMER.

For the Michigan Farmer.

BARRY CO., June 11th, 1850.

Ed. Michigan Farmer: Sir: Although rather inexperienced in the matter of communications for the press, the love I bear to the cause of agriculture, prompts me to aid, if possible, in its advancement. I am just commencing in life, as a farmer on my own account, it being the occupation to which I was brought up from childhood. Although the world, with all its occupations and professions, was before me, from which to choose,

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this eleventh of June, I find myself injured—probably will not exceed half a cent for the loss of a bushel of corn, according to present appearances, which scarcely amount to any thing; and oats must be very nearly ruined. Indeed, in the ten years which I have resided in Michigan, I have not heard so general complaint of drouth as at present.

I have now but to ask pardon for having passed so much upon your patience and paper, and if you should wish to hear occasionally of the prospects and doings of the farmers of Barry Co., you should be happy to write an occasional communication for your paper.\*

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\* Certainly we should—write.—ED.



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A. HENRY.

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**EE** Our friend Ingersoll will perceive that a part of his communication, (the part relating to potatoes,) was anticipated by one published in our last, and the other part, (relating to rust,) by one published in our present number.

our debts with, and purchase necessary articles  
for the comfort of ourselves and families, in  
these hard times? Situated as we are, away off  
here in this wooden world, surely our case is a  
sad one. We cannot get money for our pork or  
butter, our corn, oats, potatoes, beans, or any  
thing that we can produce, for the very good  
reason that we have no such things to sell. There  
may be plenty of money in California, but we  
cannot get there to get any of it, it is so far off.

We work very hard, much to the neglect of our  
minds, which is a matter of but little importance.  
We let our cattle run in the woods, and let them

meadow, the cornfield, and the garden. It is carried in hay along the road, and scattered there and suffered to grow unmolested. It is carried from farm to farm, and the buyer is unwittingly made the recipient of an evil, which in a true appreciation, would counterbalance the good.

The true mode of procedure is, to pull up the plants before they have ripened their seed, and burn them. The roots should never be thrown on the ground, for they contain sufficient within themselves to nourish them till they can send fibrous roots to the earth for nourishment. They contain sufficient nourishment in the roots to ripen the seed, even if the seed is in a very backward state. Begin as early in the spring as the leaves first start enough to show where the roots are, with mattock in hand; hunt them, dig the whole root, and burn them; or else let them grow till the seed stalk is strong enough to pull them up by, and then begin the work of extermination in earnest, with mattock, as before, to dig up such roots as may, unfortunately break off; and, having a boy with a basket to carry the roots, go through the meadows, pastures, lanes, along the fences, inside the fields and outside, and along the highways and hedges, if you have any, as often as once in a week or two, till late in the fall, and destroy both root and branch in the fire. If you should happen to overlook one, and it should ripen its seed, be extremely careful when you pull that plant to not scatter a seed on the ground, but have your basket tight, and no more scatter a seed out of the fire than you would let a pig into your corn-field.

By following these directions strictly, we may hope, in time to use up the dock; but by neglecting them, we may be sure that it will go on from year to year, till it uses up our farms.

A few words more, and I will dismiss the subject. Lest, after all diligence has been used, there should remain some scattering plants, when you go to mow your grass, keep your practised eye on the look-out for enemies. You will probably find now and then a plant that has escaped your notice. If the seed be ripe and dry, strip it off with your hand, being careful to not drop a seed on the ground to trouble you another year, and carefully deposit the seed in your pocket, or handkerchief, and when you have opportunity commit it to the flames, and destroy the root.—Some seed may, after all your care, get cut with your hay, and carried to the barn. If you find any there, save it with care for the fire.

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BARRY CO., June 11th, 1850.

Ed. Michigan Farmer: Sir: Although rather inexperienced in the matter of communications for the press, the love I bear to the cause of agriculture, prompts me to aid, if possible, in its advancement. I am just commencing in life, as a farmer on my own account, it being the occupation to which I was brought up from childhood. Although the world, with all its occupations and professions, was before me, from which to choose, my feelings, inclination, and judgment, all influenced me to cast in my lot with the cultivators of the soil.

And now, having made choice of farming my profession for life, I consider it my duty to do all I can to advance the interests and elevate the standing of the class to which I belong. X that I would overrate the influence which I personally possess; but rather be influenced by the consideration that the character and efforts of every individual, however humble, has the effect to elevate or depress the standing of the portion of society to which he belongs.

In order to elevate the farming class of community, their minds must be illuminated with the rays of science, and then their calling would be elevated in the eyes of the world, and themselves placed in that position in respect to other classes of community, which their numbers and importance imperatively demand. This most desirable effect I conceive to be most effectually secured by the influence of an agricultural paper and one especially so instructive and entertaining as yours. I am happy to see its circulation extending in my own neighborhood; its beneficial influence cannot fail to be extensively felt, gives an influence to our occupation; excites emulation, raises in the minds of farmers a wholesome pride in regard to the appearance and condition of their farms, and everything connected with them.

The crops in this vicinity, and generally throughout this county, and indeed throughout others far as my information extends, have been materially injured by the drouth: there having been no rain here since the 7th of May, five weeks this eleventh of June. Wheat is very seriously injured—probably will not exceed half a cent a bushel, according to present appearances, scarcely amount to anything; and oats must be very nearly ruined. Indeed, in the ten years which I have resided in Michigan, I have not heard so general complaint of drouth as at present.

I have now but to ask pardon for having passed so much upon your patience and paper, and if you should wish to hear occasionally of prospects and doings of the farmers of Barry Co., you should be happy to write an occasional communication for your paper.\*

BARRY CO.

\* Certainly we should—write.—ED.



### ICELAND SHEEP.

The sheep of Iceland are of two kinds; the first, termed the native breed, is small, in color from dun to almost black; the second is larger, the fleece white, and supposed to have originated from more southern regions. The fleece of these breeds consists of hair externally, with a close thick layer of wool within, impervious to cold and wet; it is worthless for manufacturing, and is used for horse collars, and more or less is exported and appropriated to this purpose.

The principal peculiarity about the native sheep is the number of their horns, many individuals having four and five, and instances have been known of eight. These hardy animals propagate without the care of man, and seek refuge from storms among the caverns of the coast during the winter season.

### HARD TIMES

For the Michigan Farmer.

LANSING, June 18th, 1850.

Mr. Isham:

What shall we do for money to pay our debts with, and purchase necessary articles for the comfort of ourselves and families, in these hard times? Situated as we are, away off here in this wooden world, surely our case is a sad one. We cannot get money for our pork or butter, our corn, oats, potatoes, beans, or any thing that we can produce, for the very good reason that we have no such things to sell. There may be plenty of money in California, but we cannot get there to get any of it, it is so far off.

We work very hard, much to the neglect of our minds, which is a matter of but little importance. We let our cattle run in the woods, and let them

lie in the road nights, because we have no room for a yard on the farm. We have to let our manure rot and waste where it is made, having no time to haul it out. We sow a good deal of wheat, (much to the neglect of our garden, and small crops) because it is the only thing that will fetch money!! But the land is so full of grubs and stone, that but little wheat is obtained, and the harvesting and thrashing will nearly eat up the profits.

Thus, if you were to come among us, you would be likely to find some of us examining a political newspaper, in hopes to find an account of some act of Congress from which some benefit may be derived. Or, otherwise watching with breathless anxiety, the movements of the present convention, lest the capital be taken away.

Please give us your opinion, Mr. Isham.—Would it not be well for us to attend more strictly to the smaller articles of farm productions, so as to be sure of enough at least for our own use?\*

And would it not be well to pay our attention more to the raising of stock, here in this new country, where it costs nothing to keep it?†

And last, though not least, would not an occasional glance at the Michigan Farmer, and a little more heed to its teachings, be useful?‡

Yours, &c.

A. HENRY.

\* Yea.—Ed.

† Yea, verily.—Ed.

‡ That is our private opinion.—Ed.

**EE** Our friend Ingersoll will perceive that a part of his communication, (the part relating to potatoes,) was anticipated by one published in our last, and the other part, (relating to rust,) by one published in our present number.

For the Michigan Farmer.

### ON POULTRY.

CONCLUDED.

As respects the opinions of others, I was informed by a friend whose judgment I have much confidence in, (knowing him to be a close practical observer of whatever engaged his attention,) and who had bestowed much attention upon his poultry, that he had, at different times, propagated the same breeds as myself, with similar results and opinions. He was then keeping the Malays and Dominico as the most profitable breeds among us; he considered the former fair layers of large, rich eggs, the chickens of quick growth and attaining to great size. The latter, as great layers as the Polands, and a much more hardy breed. Again, another gentleman, whose judgment entitles him to much respect, judging from his fine collection of blooded stock, the nicely and care he bestows in testing every choice variety of grains, garden seeds, &c. &c., assured me he could boast of his fowls with much confidence, as superior to all others; that he had tested the properties of all the different breeds then in repute—that he had had them several years, and considered them nearer perfection than any other portion of his stock. They were of good size, their eggs large, and the chickens hardy; he had a large number of them, and prided himself as the "getter up" of the breed. They were a mixture of the game fowl and Dominico, each selected for their known laying properties, their good constitution, and the cool, quiet disposition of the latter to temper down the fiery spirit of the former. He took much pains in preventing them from depreciating through breeding in and in, by alternating every third year—game and Dominico cocks for one year, breeding the intermediate years from their chickens.—Another proof of the game and Dominicos being great layers, and when combined as above, they must form a superior breed when eggs are the main object. I am now breeding the above bloods; but I still believe they will not exceed my favorite yard, (which are part of a game breed recently imported,) as layers, nor come up to them in size and rich, delicate plumage, perfectly uniform in each and every hen, and the same with the cocks.

I might quote the experience of several others with the game fowls, but I will only add one more. Maj. ——, of cock-fighting celebrity, has often offered to bet largely, that he could select fifty of his game hens that would lay fifty hundred eggs during one season.

I intended to give a statement of the products of a given number of my hens, (a part of them Malays, and a part a cross of the game,) my mode of keeping and management of chickens—also, the varieties I am breeding from, but I find I have far exceeded my intentions at the outset, by introducing my comments and remarks, as well as your

limits and your patience;\* still, when we consider the statistical reports of this country, making the value of poultry exceed twelve millions of dollars, it is really an object worthy of more attention than is generally bestowed.

In the State of New York, they are estimated at more than all the swine, or the value of its neat cattle, and five times greater than the value of all its horses and mules, and nearly equal to half the value of its sheep; hence the apparent inconsiderable value of this branch of domestic husbandry, I may truly say, is well worthy of attention. More anon.

Yours respectfully,

M. FREEMEN.

\* We hope the Dr. will continue to entertain the readers of the Farmer with the results of his experience in poultry raising, as he is manifestly an amateur in that department.—Ed.

### TESTIMONY OF TWELVE MEN.

The following letter from a P.M. written in behalf of the twelve subscribers to the Mich. Farmer, who receive their papers at his office, has just been received:

Oak Grove, Liv. Co. Mich., }  
June 19, 1850. }

Ed. Mich. Farmer:

D'r Sir: The Farmers not having been received for the month of June, I address you for the purpose of inquiring the reason, and to request you to forward them immediately. We don't know how to get along without it, and when it don't come in time, your subscribers appear to be lost; therefore you will much oblige us by sending them immediately.

Yours, &c.

B. F. FRY, P.M.

REMARKS: While we regret the oversight or miscarriage, (whichever it may have been,) it is certainly gratifying to us to know that the monthly appearance of the Farmer is looked for with interest by our subscribers, and that it is becoming so identified with their every day pursuits as to be deemed a sort of necessary appendage to their being. This is as it should be; and the assurance thus furnished us, that we are not laboring in vain, will go very far to abate our regret that the failure occurred.—Ed.

☞ The N. Y. Farmer and Mechanic says, that Messrs. Todd & Mackay, of Patterson, New Jersey, are extensively engaged in the manufacture of flax and hemp machines. Will the F. and M. inform us whether they are machines for breaking and cleaning flax and hemp? We conclude so, but are not certain. There are those in Michigan who would like to know, and if the machines are for that purpose, what is the price?

## Educational Department.

*Mr. Mayhew's reply to the invitation from the Committee to attend the New York Free School Convention, at Syracuse.*

MONROE, Mich., June 3, 1850.

Gentlemen:—I have to thank you for your obliging invitation to attend the State Convention of the friends of Free Schools, to be held in Syracuse the 10th of July next.

The subject of Popular Education is one which should engage the earnest attention, and enlist the warmest sympathies and most hearty co-operation of every Patriot and Christian Philanthropist in our country. To it, Americans especially should direct their attention, as the one great subject which underlies all our dearest and most cherished interests. It is unquestionably of greater importance to us, than any other subject of state or national policy which can engage the attention of a great and free people. Every thing, indeed, depends upon its proper maintenance.

That greatest of all experiments, the capability of man for self-government, which, wherever it has been tried has failed, we are trying again. Its result, in my opinion, depends entirely upon the educational policy which shall be pursued by the various States of this Union.

It is of the utmost importance that, in a republican government, *Universal Education* should precede, and then ever after co-exist with, *Universal Suffrage*. It requires but little discernment to see that existing popular intelligence and virtue, and the means provided for the education of the rising generation, are wholly inadequate to the most successful, if not even to the safe, administration of our state and national affairs.

The education of the American people should be such as to acquaint them with their rights and duties as citizens and sovereigns, and at the same time lead them to cherish those principles of virtue which shall enable them, while they temporarily enjoy their rights, faithfully to discharge their duties. With us, then, everything depends upon the correct education of all our future citizens. With it, we may, and most certainly shall, perfect and transmit to the latest posterity, the rich boon we have received from our fathers.—Each generation has its duties to perform. Nobly the sages and heroes of the Revolution perform theirs. If we discharge ours with equal fidelity, there lies before us an empty continent to be filled with human beings, who will be made happy through our wisdom; but if we are recreant to the trust reposed in us, they will be rendered miserable through our folly.

It would seem that no enlightened mind can for one moment question where both duty and interest lie, in relation to this matter. Wisdom then requires us to pursue that policy which will be most likely to secure to every youth of our country, such an education as will contribute most to personal and social happiness, to the well-being of neighborhoods and communities, and to the highest prosperity of the States which compose this great Nation—and this requires that the improved Common School should be free to all our country's youth, and that, if need be, agents be employed, vigilant and active, "to go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in."

I sympathize fully with the sentiments contained in your circular, and be assured it will afford me the utmost pleasure to attend the proposed Convention. Business calls me to New York in July\* and if not utterly impracticable I shall make my arrangements to be in Syracuse during the sittings of the Convention.

Very respectfully and truly,

Your obedient servant,

IRA MAYHEW.

Messrs. HARVEY, CRANDEL and others,  
Committee, Syracuse, N. Y.

\* Mr. M. is going East to superintend the publication of a work he has been writing on National Popular Education, a Manual for parents, citizens and teachers, prepared and published in accordance with a resolution of the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Michigan. It will doubtless be a valuable contribution to the great cause in which he has so long, so faithfully, so ably and so efficiently labored. It is to be published by the Harpers.—ED.

For the Michigan Farmer.  
SCHOOL LIBRARIES.

BEDFORD, Calhoun Co., June 6th, '50.

Mr. Isham:

Although my name has never appeared on your list of subscribers until the present year yet the exalted opinion which I had previously entertained of the character of your periodical has been enhanced upon the receipt of each number. Being a farmer, I trust I have derived benefit from the *practical* nature of most of the communications which have appeared in your paper relating to agriculture and farming interests in general. I have also perused with great interest the articles which have been published in your Educational Department. I most heartily concur in the opinion expressed of the tendency of *Normal Schools* to elevate the standard of the

**qualification of Teachers.** I have frequently expressed my convictions that the deplorable state of our common schools arose from the imperfect nature of the course pursued in teaching. I believe it to be a rule of general application, that the benefit derived from our schools is proportionate to the *practical* nature of the instruction communicated.

I also read with some interest, the comments upon the subject of "School Libraries," in the May number, of the Farmer, and with all due respect to the author I must beg leave to dissent from some of the opinions presented. That all within our state are not embraced in "the focus of literature and intelligence," I am willing to admit, (although with its precise locality I am unacquainted) but that an occasional ray of intelligence and beam of hope does reach the darkest corner of our state, is equally true. Every lover of intellectual and moral improvement must witness with pain, the apathy that prevails among the mass of the people upon the subject of elevating the character of the reading matter which our libraries contain, by adapting it to the real wants of the people. But the remedy proposed by your correspondent I believe to be worse than the disease to be removed. I cannot resist the conviction that the most judicious course to pursue would be, to improve and enlighten the public mind by discussion through the medium of the periodicals of the state, and still leave the people to make their own selections of reading for their libraries without manifesting any desire to forestall them. I think the course recommended by my friend would have a tendency to bring our libraries into disrepute, by depriving the people of the privilege of making their own selection of books. If the opinion expressed by your correspondent of the duties of "the Board of Education," of Massachusetts be correct, I must acknowledge that I have a wrong impression of its original design. They may have transcended their authority in some cases, but I had supposed them to be a committee of review to present the merits of the most recent publications for the consideration of the public. However, I may be laboring under an erroneous impression, if so, I should esteem it a kindness from any one to enlighten me.

I have extended this communication beyond the limits which I designed in the commencement and will close by wishing you "God speed," in your laudable endeavors to present through your valuable paper all our choicest public interests.

Yours truly,

WARREN S. HALL.

To W. Isham, Esq.

P. S. Since the writing of the foregoing communication I have received the June number of the Farmer which contains the communication from Richard Kent with which I most heartily concur.

W. S. H.

*For the Michigan Farmer.*  
**EVILS INCIDENT TO OUR EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM.**

(Continued from the last Number.)

Having thus taken a passing glance at the existing state of things, and pointed out a few of the more prominent evils, the question naturally arises; What remedy can be applied? I believe Mr. Mayhew, when superintendent of Public Instruction, suggested a remedy or two, which appear to have been of an unpopular character. I do not recollect whether the inflicting of a fine on all parents, for neglecting to send their children to school, was one of those remedies. I have no doubt, however, this would be as unpalatable as any which he proposed. We live in a land of liberty, and the rights of private citizens must not be too far infringed. As an individual, I opine that on this subject our liberty verges too much on licentiousness. The State, according to its means, has provided largely for educational purposes, and as a further measure, the exercise of large power may very justly be conceded in order that careless, indifferent, and unwilling parents may be *coerced* into allowing their children a participation in the facilities afforded. In this subject every man in the state is interested—that has no child, as much as he that has a *baker's dozen* of them, for in proportion to the predominance of a sound practical and moral education, may we expect that crime and misery will decrease, and what will be more regarded by some, the cost of preventing and punishing crime will be lessened. My object in this article, is not to call for any new enactment however, but to propose that existing laws shall be fully and fairly practised and enforced. But that we may not occupy too large a field at one time, we shall confine our attention to one single point.

By the Primary School law, Title 21, chap. 52. Sec. 107, Every Supervisor is required "to assess upon the taxable property of his township one mill on each dollar of the valuation thereof in each year, and twenty five dollars of the same shall be applied to the purchase of books for the Township Library, and the remainder thereof shall be apportioned to the several School Districts in the township, for the support of Schools therein." From this tax a respectable amount has been netted for several years past, but from the present system of assessing property, perhaps not more than one-fourth of the amount to which Schools are entitled, and which they would receive, were the assessments levied according to the requirements of law.

Title 5, chap. 20, Sec. 13. The assessors in each township shall, between the second Monday in April, and the first Monday in May, in each year, make out an Assessment Roll of all the taxable property in their township—and shall appraise the same at its **TRUE CASH VALUE**. Again, Sec. 21, requires the assessor or assessors, to sign the following certificate, viz: "We do hereby

certify that we have set down in the above assessment roll all the real estate in the Township of \_\_\_\_\_ liable to be taxed according to our best information, and that we have estimated the same at what we believe the *true cash value* thereof." The certificate is the same in substance with respect to all personal property taxable. The law then is sufficiently plain and explicit, and, as I should conceive, too peremptory to be easily evaded.

(To be Concluded.)

## Ladies' Department.

For the Michigan Farmer.

Think, think, think! vital as such an imagination may be to the interest of every one, on the young ladies of the present era it may with propriety be doubly inculcated. This with them is a season which demands original investigation and independent thought; in the history of our own sex we occupy an isthmus between two great periods of existence; for a synopsis of the *former* we refer to woman as she *was* when degraded to a condition of servant to her lord and husband, compelled to perform the most menial labor that the indolence and ingenuity of her sovereign could invent; an automaton destined to obey his every inclination while living, and at his death to combine her very being with fagots, to light the funeral pyre. Such was *woman once*, but now through the introduction and influence of Christianity she has taken a higher stand; but as yet, a *the only* of her social, and other self-evident rights have been either granted or assumed; she is destined to occupy a still nobler position! and the spirit of revolution and reformation on this subject that is now agitating our country and the world, whispers of woman as she will be, when enfranchised with social, literary and *political* immunities; when *indeed* shall

Daughters bright as polished stones,  
Give strength and beauty to the State.

With our own sex, the subject of "woman's rights" has received by far too little thought; with the other, *our* deficiency, has been supplied with gasconade, ribaldry and sham opposition, but to both classes we would repeat, that it imperatively demands an expenditure of thought, study and argument to substantiate or refute the validity of what as a sex she claims. Young ladies of Michigan! let us canvass this subject: *what position do we wish to occupy?* What birthright as a sex do we deem more sacred to confer on coming generations; one in which every *human right* is cognisant, conferred alike on all human beings, or one of partial identity, *all that woman now possesses?* We are well aware that there are young ladies, who view the mention of *innovation* as something unmaidenly; who regard the least shade of argument as quite too herculean for the deli-

cate nerves of "*boarding school misses*," and for aught we know to the contrary, our own Peninsular State is not without its representatives in such a class; but *such* minds are but the mere cyphers in the great sum of human life, and reformatory effort; they occupy too great a remove from the decimal point of true character and influence, to modify the spirit of the age. Conservatism has too long cramped the energies of mind, and mocked the miseries of manhood; but a new era is commencing in the annals of our race; a moral aurora, *now* "faint glimmering in the dappled east" will soon attain its zenith, and reveal to the world a corresponding altitude of thought and loftiness of purpose, that shall characterize *many* yet to come. Let these questions vital to the real advancement of woman as a sex, receive from the contributors of the Ladies Department, a candid investigation, and original discussion, and if no other benefit accrue, the subjective tendency of a public expression of sentiment, will a thousand fold reward the conscientious enquirer, and efficient laborer in the cause of reform. Happy am I, to enrol my name in common with others of my sex, in so laudable an enterprise, and join with you, pen in hand, to hasten on the conquest of mind.

M. ANGELINE FROST.

Flint, 18th May, 1850.

NOTE.—The above is a spirited, well-written article, and contains much important truth. We are not sure, however, but the author has broached some sentiments to which we, with all our deference to the sex, and all our disposition to allow them the largest liberty possible, without unsexing them, should dissent. There are certain things which men cannot do without becoming women, and there are certain other things that women cannot do without becoming men, and this breaks up the order of creation, and mars the beauty of the fair handi-work of God. We should love to enlarge upon this subject, but have neither time nor space now. Suffice it to say, that as it regards the nature and extent of "woman's rights" we most cordially approve of the sentiments expressed in the communication which follows, so far as it goes.—ED.

## WOMAN'S RIGHTS.

MARSHALL, June 8th, 1850.

Mr. Isham:

Like Amanda, I hail with eagerness the arrival of your paper, and search first the Ladies' and Educational Department, and generally find much that is useful and instructive, and I hope it will meet with a support equal to its importance. Were I a Mrs. Swissel, I would read lectures to our farmers' girls for not impro-

ving their opportunities better than too many of them do, but as I am not I, will offer a few thoughts on the *Rights of Woman*.

As the makers of our own destinies, we have an indisputable right to various means of improving our minds, storing our heads with useful knowledge, and imbuing our hearts with the principles of love and kindness. It is exclusively the right of a daughter to make herself the centre of attraction at home, the pride and joy of her parents, and the fit companion of her brothers.—It is as much the right as the duty of a wife to be indeed a help-meet to her husband, superintending her own department with wisdom, and performing her household labors quietly and effectually. A mother too, has rights and duties entirely her own; it is her right no less than her duty to train her children, to attend to their wants, and lead their little thoughts in the first attempts at flight. It is her right that they should love and reverence her, and yet in how many instances do we find her deprived of both love and reverence because she fails to secure them for herself.

Let us strive then for that knowledge and those qualifications, that will give us power to claim and enjoy our own rights, and not dispute with men for duties which sterner natures are better fitted to discharge. Do not understand me as undervaluing the intellectual attainments of females as compared with the other part of community; not by any means. I believe their minds capable of great improvement, but they seem to have so separate a life, that until they are conscious of claiming by might the rights usually admitted them, they ought not to sigh for those which do not belong to them.

Now I never appeared in print in my life, and do not know as I have any *right* to, but I leave you to judge, and will be contented with the decision.

ANN J.

*For the Michigan Farmer.*

#### HOW TO MAKE TOMATO SAUCE AND BUTTER, SO AS TO TASTE GOOD AND KEEP LONG.

June 15th, 1850.

Mr. Isham, Sir:

I will now endeavor, through your excellent paper, to answer a question that has often been asked me by my neighbors: "How do you make tomato sauce?" As tomatoes are taking a high place among eatables, I think it would not be useless to know how to cook them, to suit the taste of every one.

Pick one patent pail full of grown, green tomatoes, put them into boiling water, let them boil until the skin cracks and peals up, skim them out and peal them, cut them about as fine as you would fruit for preserves, put them into a brass kettle, add one pint of good sharp vinegar, and

one pint and a half of molasses, boil about an hour and a half, taking much pains not to burn them on the bottom; take them out into an earthen dish, mix well two table spoonfulls of pulverized cinnamon, (alspice will do, but it is not so good, and set it in a cool, dry place, and it will keep several days, but when you find your sauce considerably better than it has been, scald it, or it will be spoiled by the next meal. If vinegar is scarce, take common wild grapes, throw them into water and immediately skim them out, (this takes off the bitter taste) and then stew them, and strain the juice into the tomatoes; or, make the sauce of about one-third blackberries. I never knew any one to eat of sauce made in the above way that did not like it.

But I promised to say something about preserving butter, so here it comes next. When the butter is taken out of the churn, remove as much of the milk as can be done with the ladle without much trouble, mix in the salt, put it into a kettle over a slow fire, and as it melts, skim off all the froth that rises, then pour off the oil through a strainer, set it away to cool, and it will be harder than common butter, and thus you remove everything there is in butter that makes it hurt quicker than lard or tallow. I have butter now, made that way last fall, that is quite too fresh to be palatable, and yet it is as sweet as new butter. Try it one and all, and then, when you sell it, do not accept the price of buttermilk for it, but charge the worth of pure butter, and people will soon learn the difference between salt buttermilk, and good butter.

AMANDA.

*For the Michigan Farmer.*  
RECEIPTS.

*How to make good Bread in the fall of the year when the weather becomes colder.*—Some people are troubled to make good light bread. I made some complaint last fall, having had to help eat a number of batches of poor bread in succession, when I knew that the flour was good. At last we had some good light bread from the same flour, and upon enquiring the cause, my wife told me, that she put the flour in the stove oven, and warmed it, before mixing. If you fail to have good bread, try it.

*To make good Pickles.*—Take good ripe whortleberries, wash them clean, put them in a stone jar, add one pint of good molasses to every eight quarts, set them away to ferment and work like vinegar, and when they become clear, they are fit for use; and to the lovers of good pickles, will furnish a cheap and superior article.

R. COBB.

For the Michigan Farmer.

### ROSES—PRESERVING THEM.

As these flowers are so tardy in coming forward, it may be of use to some to be told how to preserve their odor for future use. When the flowers wither, the leaves, or corolla, should be taken off, and prepared, either for perfuming rooms or flavoring cake and pudding sauce. For the former, a simple way of putting them into large mouthed bottles, alternately a laying of salt and rose leaves, is very good. For flavoring cakes and puddings, they may be prepared in numerous ways, either by putting them into a small jar, in which is a piece of butter, using the butter for flavoring, or by placing them into some article which may be closed very tightly, laying them in sugar instead of salt. In this way, they may be put into fruit cake, *leaves and all*, or into pudding sauce. The corolla may be preserved in brandy.

The flavor of the rose is considered very fine. Those bottles for perfuming should be opened on occasions when you desire their fragrance, as constant exposure to the air would finally exhaust their properties.

For the Michigan Farmer.

### A RESPONSE.

A summer shower—open wide the shutters and let the pure air come rushing in. We have waited long for its coming, and now the rich verdure of the grass-plot brighteneth. The trees wave to and fro with their sparkling burdens, drinking in cool draughts. The willow and the oak bow gracefully, keeping time with the pearly drops as they come patterning down so gloriously; zephyr comes dancing in, bringing soft odors from the lilac; the chipping bird dwelling in the lowest tree chants her song of praise; and the swallow has returned to the chimney rejoicing. He came many months ago to share my home, “paying his rent in music.” Oh! welcome art thou, summer shower, watering this beautiful earth, and making all nature glad—thrice welcome in this our need.

And now, “Flora,” what of flowers? I look down from my window upon a dear enchanting spot, of which I am sole proprietress. It is my garden. Friend, take thou a stem of *oak*, forasmuch as thou lovest flowers I would offer thee “Hospitality.” Place with it a bunch of *Pansy*, for I know thou hast “tender and pleasant thoughts.” Accept also this *Dahlia*; let it grow and blossom profusely, for methinks thou art not unacquainted with “elegance and dignity.” Let alone that *Dandelion*, I own thou certainly canst

have no “coquetry.” Thou mayest grasp that *Rglantine*—“Poetry” is well befitting thee.

“Thou seest strange beauty in the silent things,  
That others idly pass.”

Thou lovest the created, surely then thou lovest the Creator. Thou shalt therefore have some *Forget-me-not*, for thou knowest “true love.” A grape I give thee—the “charity” hopeth all things.—Thou hast no need of “ambition” in thy quiet home—we will pass by the *Hollyhock*. Take thou a root of *Honey-suckle*—“fidelity” shall bind our souls with a cord of friendship. This *Iris*—I have “a message” for thee—in thy flowers behold a God. Have always some *Jasmine*, for it tells of “amiability.” Keep this *mas-rose*, and own “superior merit,” and in the *Strawberry* retain “perfect excellence.” Scorn not the *Sun-flower*, but while I offer all these, “smile on me still.” This *Sweet-William* betokens “gallantry”—present it to your brother, and your father.

Here is a *snow-ball* calling forth “thoughts of heaven.” This—take, take it, a *Star-of-Bethlehem*, saving so sweetly “let us follow Jesus.”

I would ask of thee a *Jonquil*—“affection returned.” I would nourish by its side a *Lilly*, in “purity” of heart, binding all with a sprig of *Myrtle* and *Violet*.

Cherish thou those I proffer thee, meanwhile dig around that Rose-bush—tie up the tender branches, cut off the old pericarps, and I promise you in a few days a rich harvest of beautiful roses, after which, come to Ashgrove, and I will exchange bouquets with you.

Young ladies, I offer you ALL a bouquet, which, “woven together by magic art” would be “emblems of love to thee.

“Flowers, they bloom by the lowliest cot,  
May they gladden, and brighten and bless thy lot.”

KATE ROCKVILLE.

Ashgrove, June 5th, 1850.

From the Boston Cultivator.

### EARTH, BEAUTIFUL.

“The earth is full of beauty.”

We view it in the sunbeams bright,  
In the moon’s soft silvery light;  
In every gem that decks the skies,  
Amid the rainbow’s varied dyes;  
O’er hill and vale and flowery dell,  
Is spread the light of beauty’s spell;  
In budding trees of early Spring,  
In graceful vines that round them cling,  
In the dew-drop and the rose,  
In every tiny rill that flows;  
Within the lily’s drooping bell,  
In ocean’s rosy tinted shell;  
In the delicate bayed brake,  
In sparkling ripples on the lake;  
In the crimson-curtained West,  
As softly sinks the sun to rest;  
At early morn and twilight hour,  
In summer’s sweet refreshing shower,  
On the mountain’s lofty crest,  
O’er old ocean’s pillow’d breast;  
Above, around, mid sea and air,  
Beauty’s spell is every where.

MARY.

## MICHIGAN FARMER.

DETROIT, JULY, 1850.

**A**T B. B. Chapin, J. R. Walker, I. P. Jackson, and A. A. Copeland, are our authorized traveling agents for the Michigan Farmer.

### NOTES BY THE WAY.—No. 64.

BY THE EDITOR.

In a recent visit to a portion of Oakland county, we met with much more to interest and delight us, than we had expected, inasmuch as the long protracted drouth still continued, (it being about the 12th ult.) the most doleful accounts of its effects having come to our ears. In our brief tour, we passed through parts of the townships of Royal Oak, Troy, Avon, and East Bloomfield, the last three of which embrace some of the very best lands to be found any where in the eastern part of the state. The timber is oak, bass-wood, white-wood, black walnut, butternut, &c., &c. The soil deep, dark, and very productive, being composed of loam, sand, gravel and clay, the latter predominating.

**The Crops.**—To our joy, we found that the crops had suffered much less from the drouth than we had supposed. The grass crop, it is true, had suffered much, and with the most favorable results that can be hoped, the meadows will yield but a very scanty supply of hay—scarcely the fourth part of a crop. The oat crop of necessity must be very light, and so will the barley crop.

There is still a chance for a corn crop: it is very backward, much of it but just then having made its appearance above the surface of the ground, although planted three or four weeks before. Should the months of July and August be favorable, a good crop may be expected.

The fruit crop is abundant. The trees however, of different kinds of fruit, are infested with a slimy, yellowish striped worm, from an inch to an inch and a half long, which has made its appearance in great numbers, eating off the leaves and boring its way into the fruit. It is hoped that its ravages will be stayed. They are easily shaken to the ground, and then, by tarring the body of the tree, or binding straw around it, they are effectually prevented from ascending. They have been observed in years past, but in less formidable numbers. They are of the silky tribe, being of

ten seen suspended in the air from a limb by the thread they have spun.

**The Wheat Crop.**—But the wheat crop, the wheat crop, the great staple of Michigan, which keeps our entire population in a constant state of agitation, between hope and fear, like the waves of the sea, “casting up mire and dirt”—what of it! Well, we were prepared for a doleful sight—guess our disappointment then, when we found breaking upon our vision, on the right hand and the left, some of the finest wheat fields we ever saw, and that for a distance of more than 20 miles’ travel. Occasionally a field showed slightly the effects of the drouth, and here and there one was sensibly affected, but most fields exhibited little sign of suffering, and very many, especially the deep plowed, none at all. We certainly never traveled through the same extent of country, in our own or any other state, where so many fields presented so rich a promise of an abundant harvest. We are aware that the appearance of wheat fields as seen from the road by the passing traveler, at the stage of growth they had then attained, is very deceptive. But we entered many fields and examined them sufficiently to justify the above statement.

We were informed by a person who had traveled through Macomb co., that through all the timbered portion of that county, the wheat fields presented an equally fine appearance. But upon the plains and upon stiff clay land, the crop has suffered more; though we trust not to the extent represented. An individual from the western part of Oakland co. remarked to us, that the late sown wheat had suffered much in that region, but that the early sown stood the drouth well, and that is an opening region. The universal testimony is that the deeper the plowing and the deeper the crop is put in, the less the injury from drouth.

**Effect of deep Plowing.**—Wm. Price, Esq., of Avon, has about four acres of stiff clay land, which he has many times sown to wheat, but from which he has never realized a crop, on account of winter-killing; the ground is high. Having always cultivated it shallow, he thought he would try his luck upon it at deep plowing, and last season he put on a strong team, and summer-fallowed it some ten inches deep, and now there is a most luxuriant crop of wheat upon it, far superior to the wheat by its side, which was put in after the old fashion, the difference being very marked and striking, attracting the notice of every beholder.

**Farm of C. A. Chipman, Esq.**—Nearly three miles south of Rochester, upon an elevated table of land, is the farm of our friend Cyrus A. Chipman, Esq., who is a well read, observing and successful farmer. His farm is not large, but is naturally of a very rich and productive soil, and he is getting it under a good system of management.

**Fruit Culture.**—One of the prominent things upon this farm, is the fine show of fruit trees which meets the eye, embracing the choicest varieties

of apple, pear, peach, plum and cherry—the apple orchard being quite extensive, and all choice fruit. The trees are very thrifty, and have attained to considerable size, so as to produce quite an income when the season is favorable. Some of the best fruit brought to the Detroit market, is from this farm. At the N. Y. State Fair at Buffalo, Mr. C. was awarded a copy of the "Transactions of the N. Y. State Agricultural Society," as a premium on the fruit he presented.

**Draining.**—Mr. C. has tried his hand a little at draining. He has dug a ditch through the middle of a swale, which crossed one of his fields, and which was so wet that it was not fit to cultivate till very late in the season. Now, it is fit for the plow earlier in the season than the land on each side of it. He first set up stones at the bottom of the drain, six or eight inches apart at the base, bringing their top ends together, roof fashion, and then piled in cobble stones, and upon these, dirt. He contemplates putting in drains upon other portions of his farm, and expressed a desire to drain the whole of it. And yet his farm, as we said, is elevated, and there is not much chance for water to stand upon the surface. Most people would think that money spent in draining it would be worse than thrown away. But they are superficial observers, and do not understand the matter at all. All lands, with a clay sub-soil, would be benefited by draining sufficiently, to pay a large interest on the capital expended—a much larger interest than the farm had previously paid on the original purchase money. The reason is obvious: all such soils retain more or less stagnant water, and just so far as they are saturated with stagnant water, they become incapable of affording a passage downwards to rain-water as it descends, with its fertilizing elements, as ammonia, carbonic acid, &c., and of course, it either runs off into streams, or evaporates from the surface. We have heretofore spoken of the great benefits resulting from tile-draining a large farm of this description—a Mr. Johnson's near Geneva, N. Y.

Mr. C. has a very superior flock of sheep, (merino) of about a hundred, good sized, in good condition, and very fine woolled.

We noticed an excellent field of wheat upon the premises, which showed no appearance of having suffered from drouth. Mr. C. has given his attention more to the cultivation of other crops of late years, as corn, &c., on account of the precariousness of the wheat crop.

As we spent but half an hour with him, of course we could not see much, but what we did see, was highly gratifying, as it showed intelligence, order, neatness, industry, good husbandry, and thrift.

**OHIO STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE.**—We have received, from friend Bateham we suppose, the report of this Board for 1849, consisting of about 300 pages. It is a valuable document, and we shall endeavor to make use of it.

The following account of the farming operations of Mr. Cone, was penned before the article from him in our present number, was received. The same topics are introduced by both in one or two instances, but it will be seen, that there is not similarity enough between them to cause them to interfere at all with each other.

#### NOTES BY THE WAY—NO. 66.

BY THE EDITOR.

#### LINUS CONE'S FARM.

Mr. C. is the man, of whose extraordinary success in wheat-growing we have given some account, and who is now furnishing the readers of the Farmer with a series of articles upon the subject. If any have doubts whether those articles contain the substantial truth, we advise them to visit his place, and they can very easily satisfy themselves; and it would be far better for them to perform a pilgrimage of this sort from the farthest extremity of the State, than to lose the benefit to be derived from the results of his experience—*far better*.

We found, as we expected, every thing right, a neat, spacious and convenient farm house, located upon a delightful eminence, commodious outhouses, good fences, furnished with gates, clean fields, good stock, good cheer and good fare.

**His Wheat Fields**—The first thing which attracted our attention, was a wheat field of twelve acres by the road side, near the house, and such wheat we never saw thrown up out of any soil, anywhere. It is about as thick as it can stand upon the ground, of a good height, having just headed, and appears to be even and uniform, all over the field. This field has been treated in the manner we described, in speaking of Mr. C.'s success in wheat-growing, viz: sown to wheat every third year, and at the same time (the same season) stocked to clover, to lie two years, and on the third, to be turned under ten or twelve inches deep, preparatory to sowing wheat.

In the last twelve years, he has taken four crops of wheat from this field. One of those crops was injured by the drains getting out of order. The other three averaged forty-three bushels to the acre, and he remarked that they were no better than the crop now upon the ground, and his impression seemed to be that they were not as good, at the same stage of growth. He thought it possible, that this crop might, if nothing befalls it, reach fifty bushels to the acre.

He remarked that some days previous he had observed a small spot in the field, which appeared a little yellow, and taking his spade, went to it, and digging down, found that in that spot, the plow, for some reason, had penetrated only about six inches deep—the clover turned under being

found at that depth. Stepping one side from the yellow spot, he put his spade into the ground, and found that the clover lay ten inches below the surface. When we there, the yellow spot had disappeared.

He said that when the drouth came on, the roots of the wheat had not penetrated through the clover, and the plant received a temporary check, but as the ground had, on former occasions, been plowed deep, as soon as the roots penetrated through the clover into it, it resumed its vigorous growth and natural color.

Now that we are upon this subject, (the effects of deep and shallow plowing,) we will just take the reader across the road into a field of wheat which was summer-fallowed and well got in, upon the old shallow-plowing system, and show him the difference. The land is as good as Mr. Cone's, but the wheat, on the greater part of the field, is thin, yellow, uneven and light; and, under the most favorable circumstances, cannot yield more than a third part as much as Mr. C's, per acre. We trust our friend G. (whose face we never saw,) will take no exception to this remark, for conscience sake, and for humanity's sake.

But let us go back again into that twelve acre field. From Mr. C's book, (he keeps regular farm accounts, and knows exactly how matters stand with him at the year's end,) it appears that the entire expense of preparing these twelve acres, and putting in the crop, embracing cost of seed, (nineteen bushels at a dollar a bushel,) was only forty-four dollars and some cents. Let us suppose that the harvesting, threshing, cleaning, &c. will cost as much more, which is a very liberal allowance. Let us suppose farther, that the field will only average what it has in years past, and we have an aggregate of 516 bushels, which, at 80 cents per bushel—and that is probably as low as it will be in this market—will amount to \$412.80. Deducting the \$88.00 outlay, and there will be left \$324.80, or \$27.06 per acre.—At 75 cents per bushel, the aggregate, after deducting expenses, would be \$299, or about \$25 per acre for the use of the land—pretty good interest. The land was plowed but once, and then cultivated.

Mr. C. has another field of wheat a little larger, we think, which, though not quite equal to the one above spoken of, is nevertheless very superior wheat, and will turn out a heavy yield, if no calamity befalls it. Neither field exhibits the slightest symptom of suffering from drought.

As Mr. C. stood looking over the latter field with us, we observed him starting off, all of a sudden, and making his way several rods into the wheat, as though intent upon the accomplishment of some important purpose; and sure enough he was. Coming to a full stop, he seized a stool of *something*, drew it out violently by the roots, and brought it back with him in triumph. It was a stool of rye. He did not suppose there

was such a thing in either field, and probably there was not another.

And how slovenly, how unfarmer-like, to suffer a wheat field to be thus overrun! What a sight! And yet such sights are common all along the road, wherever we travel. Indeed it is rare to see a wheat field entirely clear of rye. Strange that farmers are so regardless of their own interests, to say nothing of appearances, knowing, as they do, that the quality of our flour is thus vitiated, and its value depreciated in the market. With very little trouble, every field thus infested may be passed over and cleared of every stool of rye.

*The way he plows--the team he drives--and the plow he uses.*—He never plows less than ten or twelve inches deep, nor with a less team than three yoke of oxen, led by a pair of horses. This, to those who are in the habit of skimming their lands with a single yoke of oxen, would look like a very extraordinary mode of proceeding—and so it is, and the results are equally extraordinary.

But says one, “it cannot be possible that he plows as deep as he tells for, without the use of the subsoil plow to follow the common plow; for where I do my best with the common plow, putting it in to its utmost depths, I cannot go more than six inches deep”—and he says so too—we asked him. The plows in common use, even Ruggles, Nourse & Mason's, cannot be got into the ground more than six or seven inches. But he uses a plow which other people have thrown aside, and therefore it cannot be called a common plow. It is a Michigan plow, and he called it “Mason's old plow,” and said it was manufactured at Birmingham, (six miles south of Pontiac.) He said it would measure full sixteen inches from the under side of the beam to the bottom of the share, or landside. He takes off the wheel, and lets it go in to the beam. The furrow does not all turn over smooth, nor does he care to have it. We understood him to say that this plow was not now manufactured, unless to order.

He always plows the furrows the same way, the way the water will run off the best by means of the dead furrows. Even if he plows the second time, he plows the same way. But he has done with that, and plows but once now for any crop, using the cultivator, instead of the plow, afterwards. After putting in his wheat, he spends a day or two, or as much time as is necessary, in deepening and clearing out the dead furrows, to the depth of sixteen or eighteen inches, so that all the surplus water will be sure to run off. He thinks many err in plowing lands too narrow, not more than a rod wide, with a view to draining, and says that dead furrows, three rods apart, are equally effectual.

*Profits of fruit culture.*—Mr. C. has given much attention to the cultivation of fruit trees, and is now reaping the fruits of it. While many

have neglected to plant trees, and have not even a sufficiency of fruit for their own domestic purposes, he is realizing greater profits from his, perhaps, than can be realized by any other branch of farm husbandry. From sixty-five trees, he gathered a year ago, last fall, 212 barrels of apples, which he sold at an average of \$2.25 per barrel. He sold forty barrels of English russets, *last June*, at about \$2.75 per barrel. From those sixty-five trees, then, he realized an aggregate of \$477.00.

He mentioned a fact in regard to the Northern Spy and the Swaar, of which we were not before aware, viz: that in some seasons, a portion of the fruit of those varieties does not have time to ripen in this climate, the season not being long enough, and those that are thus cut short never exhibit the peculiar excellencies of those choice varieties of fruit, but are flavorless. It is not every season that they are thus caught, nor is it often that any considerable proportion of the fruit is thus from necessity prematurely gathered, but he remarked that it was sometimes the case; and how far this circumstance would detract, if at all, from the value of these justly favorite varieties, for cultivation among us, remained yet to be tested.

**Splitting rocks.**—Mr.C. has a way of splitting rocks, much cheaper and safer, and less terrible than with gun powder. It consists simply in laying them bare, and kindling a fire upon their surface. An armfull of wood is sufficient to split any rock, and a boy might kindle a dozen fires upon as many rocks, in different parts of a field, in a very short time. The heat will crack the rock right in two in the middle, and then it can be quartered in the same way, if necessary. If the upper surface of the rock shells off in scales, before it is heated sufficiently to split it in two, they should be removed, that the fire may lie in direct contact with the body of the rock.

Mr.C. has some large boulders of different species of rock, lying scattered upon a portion of his farm, as granite, conglomerate, and limestone.—He remarked that the existence of these isolated boulders, so different from the native rock of the country, confirmed the theory of geologists in regard to them. That theory is, that being imbedded in ice in their native region, they became detached, and floated with the ice to their present place of deposit.

**His stock.**—His hogs are a cross of the By-field, Berkshire, and Grass breeds, and are manifestly an improvement on those breeds. He remarked, that they would "breed back again," and pointed to a shoat, the product of this cross, apparently of the pure grass breed.

We did not see his neat cattle, but conclude that they must be of a superior order, from the fact that he killed a three year old heifer the last of February, which weighed eight hundred lbs. after having been milked until the last of November, and fed only three months. They are part Durham.

"*Old Jerry.*"—This is the name of a horse, which, after fourteen years' hard service upon Mr. C's farm, has been released from active duty, and been turned out to spend the remainder of his days in quiet retirement. He is now twenty four or five years of age, and yet apparently sound, and capable of much service. For four years past, he has performed no labor, but has lived at his ease upon the bounty of his master, whom he has so faithfully served; and Mr.C. remarked that he appeared to enjoy himself very much, and that, although he had, a few months since, been offered twenty-five dollars for him, he should not part with him, but maintain him at his ease, and make him as comfortable as possible, in his old age, in view of his excellent character and eminent services, and added, that he had been about the best horse he ever knew.

And what a contrast is here, to those who, by their selfish cruelties, kill off their horses before they have lived out ha'f their days, and who so cripple and break them down, that they are of comparatively little value while they do last; and at last, when they are of no further use, turn them off to die, with cold and heartless indifference! Truly, selfishness is blind! Many days of quiet enjoyment to "old Jerry!"

**Which is the best investment?**—Mr. C. has just sold off fifty-six acres of land, which leaves him with only about a hundred acres, about seventy of which is improved. And what do you think he is going to do with the money—*pay debts?* He owes no debts. What then will he do with it—*buy more land?* Doubtless those who have four times as much land already as they can cultivate, and who, in consequence get no adequate returns for their labor, would think that they needed more land, and would buy all the land adjoining them that they had the means to pay for; and many of this class who have no surplus means, and are already in debt, are always ready to buy more land, whenever an opportunity offers. One would think that if any farmer in the country would be justified in so doing, Mr. C. was the man, for his farm is small, and in a very high state of cultivation, and he has the money at command. But will he thus invest it? Not he; he thinks he has land enough already, and intends laying out the money he received for the land he sold in improvements upon that which he retains. And we have no doubt that the result will show his wisdom in so doing—not the shadow of a doubt that his money will bring him a fair riches return, invested in this way, than in extending the area of his farm—see if it don't, laugh at him as you will.

**Why can you not go and do likewise?**—Do you say you "have not the means, and can't?"—Neither had he the means any more than you, nor could he do it any better than you—but yet he has done it, notwithstanding, and so can you. Again and again have we proved to you that the improved system of husbandry, instead of requi-

ring a vast outlay for years, without yielding any adequate return, as some seem to suppose, would pay far better, even from the start, in proportion to the outlay, than the old system, and aid you far more effectually to rise above your embarrassments. Nor is the outlay beyond the means of any man who is capable of carrying on a farm at all. Who cannot buy a few quarts or a bushel of clover seed, to begin with? Who cannot raise a team sufficient to plow ten inches deep, either by hiring, or exchanging with a neighbor, as Mr. C. informed us he had been obliged to do? Easy enough could you do it, if you were once persuaded that there was no other way; and such is the fact, for the old way of doing these things is just no way at all, but is a mere burlesque on farming, and you ought to be ashamed to be caught at it.

*Increased interest in the cause.*—Mr. C. has recently had occasion to attend a meeting of the executive committee of the Oakland Co. Agricultural Society, and he remarked that there has been a mighty waking up in the cause since last year; for then it was almost impossible to get enough together to do business, whereas at the late meeting, every member of the committee, we think, except one—twelve in number—living in different and distant parts of the county, were present, and manifested much interest in the good cause.

#### LEICESTER AND LINCOLN SHEEP— LARGE CARCASS AND HEAVY FLEECES.

PLYMOUTH, May 27, 1850.

Editor of the Mich. Farmer:

Sir—I have obtained thirty-two Leicester and Lincoln Sheep from full blood imported stock, both for the use of the farmer and the market. Should there be any general good resulting from their introduction in Michigan, it will furnish a high gratification to the owner. They were purchased from English and Scotch Shepherds, who had selected the best blood used in the great European market, containing the following qualities, which have been the study of the sheep growers of that aged country for a long time, viz: to combine the largest amount of mutton of the best quality, with tallow and the greatest weight of wool of equal fineness over the body, with maturity quick on the least keep. And this has been brought to a high state of perfection, not only by Mr. Bakewell, but by many other eminent sheep growers of that country. Your correspondent has been more or less engaged in sheep growing over thirty years, with Merino, Saxon, Mattled down, Hampshire Down, Sussex Down and native Sheep, of all descriptions, and colors. It is no part of his object to undervalue any other person's sheep, or business, let his locality, or profession be where or what it may, this is not the purpose. There must needs be all kinds of localities, professions and trades, as

well as grades of wool, and sheep, and under a kind Providence in our beloved country, there is room for all. If your correspondents of Washtenaw, or any other county prefer the Merino, or Saxon, let them have them. If any wish fine wool in preference to any other quality, let them be suited; this is a sort of privilege which some prize highly. When I see the great mass of our people wearing coarse clothes, and but few wearing fine, and observe that there are more fine cloths in proportion to the consumption, then those of a coarse texture, my convictions have recently been in favor of obtaining the largest kinds of sheep, combining the most mutton, tallow, wool, with a hardy constitution, and the least keep.—And I have recently had the advantages of obtaining some, which have been improving for a great length of time, for these express purposes.

Two of the yearling Bucks, yielded when shorn last week, twenty-four pounds and 6 oz. of wool. One of the yearling Bucks weighed on the scale 190 pounds; and the weight of fleece of the yearling Ewes on an average, amounted to eight and a half pounds. The wool is of about a middling quality, fine enough for all practical use; long, but of a soft texture, and holds its equal quality to the flank of the sheep. The sheep are broad on the backs, with heavy shoulders and quarters, and appear rather light, or tucked up in the chest, so that they are capable of attaining the largest amount of mutton, wool and tallow, on less keep than any other kind of sheep. They have also a very robust constitution, and pleasant disposition. These sheep can be seen on my farm in Plymouth by any who may be pleased to call and see for themselves.

Respectfully yours,

J. SHEARER.

*Æ* There is getting to be much competition among our wool-growers, which we are glad to see, and doubt not it will result in a great improvement of our flocks. There is also a great deal of sensibility among them; we know of scores of them who would be touched to the quick, to be told that their sheep were not the very best to be found in the whole kingdom of Michigan; when, at the same time, there are probably a great many flocks among us, equal, and even superior, to theirs. We have no doubt that every time the superior qualities of any particular flock of sheep are set forth in the Farmer, the tender feelings of a great multitude of these people, are very much hurt. We are sorry for them, and tender them our sympathies; and if it will in any degree, relieve them from their unpleasant feelings, and add to their happiness, to be allowed to set forth the qualities of their own respective flocks, and their claims to consideration, through the Farmer, we will most cheerfully award them the privilege—only be sure you tell the truth. This will enable the public to judge for themselves, and the result can not be otherwise than highly auspicious to the wool-

rowing interest of the commonwealth. The following editorial article from the *Wool Grower*, comes in very appropriately in connection with the preceding and next following communications:

### THE MOST PROFITABLE BREED OF SHEEP.

There is much discussion upon the question, as to the most profitable breed of sheep. One party asserts, that the true breed is the finest, and purest Saxony; another is equally certain that it's the hardy gummy Merino; a third is opposed to all fine woolled sheep, and can only grow the South Down; while still another can see no profit in any but the long woolled and stately Cotswold or Leicester; while a great multitude are in favor of the mongrels, obtained by a cross from a part of all kinds mentioned.

The best breed of sheep, for the farmer to adopt, will depend in a great degree upon his locality. Whether near or at a distance from a good market for live stock, as large towns, or upon railroads leading thereto; whether in a grain growing, or a grazing district; or in a warm or a cold climate.

It is settled that a fine staple of wool cannot be grown upon a profitable carcass for the butcher. A large and early maturing sheep like the South Down and Cotswold, cannot be made to produce a fine clothing wool. But the wool they do produce is valuable, and brings a remunerating price especially the long wool of the Leicesters. Then coarser and larger bodied sheep require a larger amount of pasture, and cannot be kept in large flocks. For the farmer who keeps but a few, say from 50 to 100, we should recommend the coarse woolled sheep. Many a farmer who can keep his 50 or 60 head, could make his two dollars annually clear upon each with very little trouble.—It would require care, and that is what a great many farmers complain of, though constantly grumbling about hard times. In a warm climate, and especially at the south, fine woolled Saxons should be preferred.

The great belt of our country lying north of the Alleghany mountains, and the Ohio river, and extending clear up to the Rocky mountains, seems admirably adapted for the Negretti and Infando branch of the Merino families, as south of that line does for the Escurial and Electoral branch. The best representative of this branch is found in what is now termed the *Vermont Merino*.—They are a hardy race, with thick heavy fleeces, full of gum and yolk, and formed to withstand well the rigors of our hard winters. Like their congener, the Saxon, they delight in a dry soil, and will thrive upon pastures where larger sheep would starve. In Vermont, objections are made to this breed of sheep by wool dealers, because the wool is so heavy by reason of its gum and yolk. It may not be so profitable for them, but it shows the great value of the breed for cold and

bleak regions. But as this sheep travels west it loses much of its superfluous gum and oil, but none of its vigorous constitution. Crossed upon the common breeds of Ohio, Michigan, and the other western states, it produces a valuable breed, giving a finer and heavier fleece, and a stronger and more healthy habit. This breed is not confined to Vermont, but may be found in great purity in this state, and Connecticut, and Massachusetts.

### GREAT PROFIT ON SHEEP—EXTRAORDINARY WEIGHT OF FLEECE.

For the Michigan Farmer.

YPSILANTI, June 10th, 1850.

Mr. Editor:

According to promise, I will give you and your readers, through the Michigan Farmer, a short chapter of my experience in keeping Merino sheep. In the fall of '45, I purchased a Buck at \$30, and a small lot of Ewes at \$15 per head. "Now," say my good friends and neighbors, "he has fooled away his money; \$5 is enough for any sheep." But let us see; a regular debt and credit will tell. First, the wool of the Buck alone, has brought me \$14.38; deduct \$1 per year for keeping, leaves \$9.38, and the increase of value on my common stock. All that has been sold should be passed to his credit, except \$1 per head, which would be a full average of the worth of common sheep. The fleeces from stock of his get, average one pound per head more, and of better quality of wool, which makes their wool bring me four shillings per fleece more than that of my old stock. After deducting the items above mentioned, I find \$121.88 over and above what my common sheep would have yielded. Mr. Editor, was that \$30 badly laid out? Had my means permitted me to have kept more sheep, the amount would, of course, have been proportionably larger. What I have reckoned, is not all; for I have most of his stock with me yet, which, at a fair price, would amount to as much more. The full-blood Ewes purchased at that time, have done well; after selling the Buck lambs, the Ewes and their Ewe lambs stand me in \$1 per head all round. One individual Ewe has returned me \$5 more than cost, and what I have of her stock, can't be bought for \$50. I purchased but a small lot at that time, but have been adding to this number as my means would permit; and, as soon as my ability will let me, not one grade sheep shall be in my possession, altho' their fleeces may be brought up to 5 lbs. per head by one more cross. I have yet to see the grade Ewe that will bring lambs uniformly good, with an even fleece, from the same Buck. Those who wish, can try it; the cheap article generally costs the most in the long run. I have now about 30 head of full-bloods, and intend to increase their number at our State Fair, next fall. You can see, Mr. Editor, what it is to fool away money, as the

wise ones predicted. Last fall, when I paid A. L. Bingham \$200 for a Buck lamb, a friend of mine from Vermont, told me the good folks said I was getting crazy about sheep, to pay such enormous prices; but, as good luck would have it, they were preaching to the wrong customer. He offered to bet \$100 that the lamb would clear the cost in two years, without having one dare to cover it; and, as things stand, he would have won, if nothing uncommon takes place. The lamb in question, was sheared on the 6th inst., and cut 16 lbs. 10 oz. of wool. He is from four to six weeks older than our common lambs are at shearing time, being about 15 months old. After shearing, he weighed 115 pounds. Fifteen per cent. of wool is a little better than three, that being the average of our old stock. I received a letter from A. L. Bingham, under date of May 20th, stating that he had just sheared his Taintor sheep, and that they averaged about 18 pounds per head; the heaviest Ewe fleece, 25½ pounds. That, your readers will say, is a thumper. To see is to believe, and quite a number of our wool-growers were on hand when I sheared, and saw the wool weighed, from my lamb; (he was not washed, understand.) But the French sheep have a fleece almost free from any foreign substance, much more so than the Spanish Merino. Col. Brewer sheared a lot of lambs that were a cross of French on the Spanish; they averaged him 8 lbs. per head, at about 10 or 11 months old. They, too, were raised by Mr. B.

Now, if you think this fulfills my promise, you can use it as you see fit.

G. W. GALE.

Enclosed I send you \$1 for the present volume of the Michigan Farmer. You will mail it to \_\_\_\_\_, Vermont. Have not some of your subscribers, friends that they wish to oblige in the same way? \*

G. W. G.

\* The individual designated by Mr. G., takes the Farmer already, "on his own hook." Will he inform us to what other friend he will have it sent?—ED.

**SUPERIOR LOT OF SHEEP.**—J. D. Paterson, Esq. of Westfield, N. Y. passed through Detroit on Wednesday last, being on his way to Kalamazoo, with thirty four buck lambs, one year old, which were superior to any we have ever seen, in point of size, and they were covered all over with wool down to the very hoofs, very thick and very long, and very fine. They are from a full blood French Merino buck, and full blood Spanish Merino ewes. The best of them will doubtless shear from twelve to fifteen pounds, and the smallest at least seven pounds, the present season.— Their wool is open and free from gum. He expects to sell them from twenty-five to seventy-five dollars a head. He has a flock of eight hundred, all pure full blood Merinoes. We may expect to see him on hand at our State fair.

For the Michigan Farmer.

### RUST IN WHEAT.

Mr. Isham, Dear Sir:

Once more I have set  
down to write a little for your excellent paper, which I can still say I am much pleased with, and thinking I may perhaps communicate some information to somebody, and help along the good cause of improvement, I shall make no apology for what I may write, promising to do the best I can; and first, I noticed in the May No. of the present volume of the Michigan Farmer, an article on Rust, from the pen of Gen. K. Smith, which pleased me much, but when I came to examine the philosophy of rust, I found that his theory was against facts. For instance, he states that the cause of rust is the soil's containing the protodox of iron, which is soluble in tepid water. But is the protodox of iron to be found in all soils alike? Rust is no respecter of soils, but other things being equal, serves all alike. Again, the remedy is ashes; but we old farmers know, that the more ashes the more rust, which fact any man can satisfy himself of, by going at any time when there is any rust, on to a wheat field sown on timbered land just cleared, and examine the wheat where log heaps have been burned. Again, it is said, that any person knows that rust is occasioned by warm, sultry weather, by alternate showers and hot sunshine, &c. I know many people believe this to be the case, and I used to believe so myself, but now, as it has become fashionable to offer premiums, I will give the next volume of the Michigan Farmer to any man that will prove satisfactorily that rust is caused in any way, unless it is in connexion with a Honey Dew. Many people tell about the straw's cracking. I have heard that when there was no rust, and the wheat dead ripe. So much for rust. My object is to awaken enquiry and close investigation.

R. COBB.

For the Michigan Farmer.

### STUMP MACHINES.

Mr. Isham, Dear Sir:

Again I hear a number of inquiries about pulling stumps. I have got up a machine on a cheap plan, costing about two dollars, besides one extra chain, 12 feet long, weighing 60 lbs., and used double. Common chains will answer for the rest, and one man, with a good large handspike, can raise an hundred tons, and the power can be increased to any extent necessary. Should this machine suit the wishes of those who desire to get rid of their stumps, I will give a description in some future number.\* It can be drawn about by one yoke of oxen.

Yours, R. COBB.

Hadley, June 12th, 1850.

\* Let us have a description of it.—ED.

## THE DROUTH—EARLY AND LATE SOWING.

Mason, Cass Co. June 7th, 1850.

MR. ISHAM, Esq:

DEAR SIR: Please send the current vol. of the Farmer to — Adamsville, Cass Co., and a copy to my brother, — of Fulton, Rock Co. Wisconsin. I will see that you have the money for both. If you ever print any more of my scribbling leave off the name of —

The prospect of fruit is very good, though the fruit as well as the other crops, must suffer severely if there is not rain soon.

Corn is coming up poorly, for want of moisture, and some pieces of wheat, that looked well three weeks ago, are nearly dried up, and if there is not rain soon, will be an entire failure. The memory of the *oldest* inhabitant hereabouts, furnishes no parallel to the present spring for dryness and cool weather.

Will some of your correspondents, who speaks by *authority*, tell us when the time for early sowing wheat ends, and late begins. There is a great diversity of opinion and practice: some contend that to be early, it must be done in August, or the first of Sept. at the latest. Others call the 25th of September quite early. Does not this difference of opinion as to what is meant by early or late sowing, give rise to some of the seemingly contradictory recommendations as to the proper time for seedling? Some experienced farmers tell us to sow early, and give the plants time to root deep, and spread out so as to cover the ground in the fall as well as to escape rust. Others say sow late if you would avoid having it destroyed by the insect in the fall, or smothered out, in the winter. But neither of them tells us precisely what he means by the terms early and late.\*

I have often heard the question asked in a half despairing tone, what can one man alone do on a farm? To me the question is full of interest, and I should be much obliged to you, or any of your able correspondents for an answer.†

The Michigan Farmer is rapidly winning its way to every Farmer's home and confidence. It is getting late, so with many thanks for your kindness to a former communication, I am

Truly yours

JUNIOR.

\*It is impossible to fix a standard on account of the variations of the seasons. Wheat sown on the same day of the month two successive years, might in the one case be early, and in the other late. The cause being beyond all mortal ken or control, the best must, of necessity, "sometimes miss it," and be baffled in their calculations, altho', as a general thing, they may make an approximation to the true time, sufficiently near for all useful results. Our own private opinion is,

that, as far as possible, both extremes should be avoided—Ed.

†We doubt not that "Junior" himself is as well qualified to answer the question as any other man, and hope he will do it—Ed.

**NEW AND SINGULAR INSECT.**—A tribe of insects of a strange character, have recently made their appearance upon the maple trees of Mr. Solomon Davis, of this city. Looking up into the tree, you see little bunches, white as the driven snow, adhering to the small branches, each one resembling the half of a kernel of popped corn, turned inside out, and upon examination, these white bunches are found to be a silky substance, which can be drawn out like a spider's web, and in them are wrapped up the larvae of the insect.—Attached to one side of each of these is the insect which doubtless deposited the eggs and spun the web that envelopes them. It resembles more a bedbug, in color and shape than any thing else we can think of. If any of our readers know any thing about it, will they let us hear from them?

**OHIO STATE FAIR.**—We have received a pamphlet containing the list of premiums to be awarded at the Ohio State Fair, to be held in Cincinnati, on the 11th, 12th and 13th of Sept. next, with regulations, &c.

We notice some things in it worthy of imitation, particularly the appointment of ladies as judges, in the Floral, needle, shell, and wax work departments. Two premiums of fifty dollars each are appointed for essays. ch

**TIME FOR HARVESTING WHEAT.**—It is now a well settled fact, that wheat harvested just as the berry is going out of the milky state, weighs heavier, and makes more and better flour, at the same time that much less is wasted by shelling, than when suffered to stand till fully ripe—and we may add, that the effects of rust are thus in great measure counteracted.

**The Farmer's Guide to scientific and practical agriculture.**—We have received the 2d and 3d Nos. of this work. They are all that the publishers promised in our last No. Leonard, Scott & Co. 79 Fulton-st. N. Y. For sale at McFarren's, Detroit.

**Wool.**—We have in our office, specimens from this year's fleece of wool, raised by Ira H. Butterfield, of Shelby; one from a Spanish Merino Ewe, not yet a year old, which is three inches in length. One fleece, which was sheared this month from a Spanish Merino Buck, weighed 12 pounds and 8 ounces; other fleeces ranged from 4 to 8 pounds each.—*Macomb Herald.*

## Horticultural.

### NOTES BY THE WAY—NO. 67.

BY THE EDITOR.

In the account of a recent trip to Calhoun County, we have spoken of visiting Homer, located upon the eastern extremity of that delightful burr oak plain called Cook's Prairie. About a mile and a half from the village of Homer, upon the borders of this plain, is the flourishing, well-stocked, and well-managed nursery of Weatherwax & Coon. This nursery embraces the choicer varieties of the various kinds of fruit cultivated among us, the worthless and less valuable varieties having been excluded. Fifty varieties have been thrown out the last year. And we are glad to find, that nursery men all over the State, are pursuing the same course. Formerly, it was the ambition of all engaged in that vocation, to swell their catalogues to the greatest possible extent, as though their entire success depended upon an imposing show of varieties, tho' the greater part of them were unworthy of cultivation. In carrying this wholesome reform into effect, much is to be hoped from Pomological Conventions, unless, indeed, nursery-men are too much interested in the sale of such varieties, to counteract the beneficial effects which might otherwise flow from them. We trust, at all events, that, when they get them sold off, if they must sell them, they will take care not to replace them.

*Fire, or Frozen Sap Blight.*—We were not aware that this calamity had befallen the pear trees in any section of this State, till we learned from Mr. Weatherwax, that it had invaded their nursery, destroying five thousand trees the last winter. And he thinks the cracking and peeling off of the bark of apple trees near the ground, which so seriously injures many nurseries, and of which so much has been said in the Farmer, has its origin in the same cause. He accounts for it in this wise, as the result of his own observation: After a drouth in summer, there generally comes on a rainy, growing season in the fall, and sometimes very late in the fall, and the trees, which had been checked in their growth during the drouth, stretch away and grow, when the rainy season comes on, and continue to grow very late in the fall, so late, that the sap is caught before it gets down, and is frozen up, and hence the destruction.

*Mulching.*—Mr. W. has a high appreciation of the benefits of mulching, that is, covering the ground around and under fruit trees, with straw, or coarse litter, partially rotted or not, six or eight inches deep. He says he would rather have 50 apple trees well mulched, than 150 unmulched. Mr. Birrt, a neighbor of his, he said, mulched an orchard of a quarter of an acre, covering the ground all over between the trees, as well as under them; and the application was so visibly and strikingly beneficial, as to attract the notice of every one.

*Black Knot, or Warts on the Plum Tree.*—Mr. W. inquired of us our opinion of this strange phenomenon. We replied, that it was manifestly a contagious disease, (from whatever cause,) and that, unless arrested, it would go from tree to tree, until an entire orchard was destroyed. And this corresponded with his idea of the matter. But we had supposed the only remedy was, either to cut down and remove the infected trees, or else to cut off all infected branches below the knot, (as friend Noble advises;) but he says the same end is gained by paring the knot, or warts, entirely off.

While we were at Mr. Otis's, whose farm we noticed in our last, he took us into the garden to show us a plum tree which was pretty badly knotted. We remarked to him, that, if he did not put a stop to it, he might soon expect to see all his plum trees affected in the same way. This led him to cast his eye upon the next tree, where he instantly exclaimed, "And there it is, sure enough"—a few small knots having just made their appearance upon it.

We are rather inclined to the opinion, that the disease originates from some other cause than the bite of an insect; for why should cutting off, or paring off, the knots, put a sudden stop to it, if it is thus originated.

*Quinces and Grapes.*—Mr. W. remarked, that quince trees and grape vines require more manure than any other kind of fruit trees; and added, that they would make a richer return for the outlay than any other. He had a branch of a quince tree, last year, twelve inches long, which had twelve quinces upon it, the weight of which was eleven pounds.

*Plums on the Peach Stock.*—Mr. W. is in the habit of grafting plum scions upon antiquated superannuated peach stocks, and they thrive wonderfully, making a beautiful, vigorous, well-spread

and healthy tree; and it is after it has passed the meridian of its usefulness, and commenced decaying, that he converts them to this purpose, taking off the entire old top, and giving it a plum one. The body remains perfectly sound and good, and the trees which were served thus a few years ago now present as fine and healthy an appearance as any trees we ever saw, and bear abundantly.

He has quite a number of plum trees upon the wild plum stock, of considerable size. The grafted portion overgrows the stock, so much as to create quite a deformity, the former being more than twice the size of the latter. And yet, the stock stands perfectly well, and appears to be firm and solid. He thinks they are in no danger of breaking. Be that as it may, the deformity is argument enough against their use, to our mind.

But we must not forget to say, that Mr. W. is far on his way to the land of gold, and the Michigan Farmer is now mailed to him at Sacramento City.

PONTIAC, June 21st, 1850.

#### THE TERM, "RARE-RIPE."

EDITOR OF MICHIGAN FARMER:

Dear Sir: "Inquirer," in your last number, wishes to know the definition of *Rare-ripe Peach*. Having, from my earliest youth, (more than 60 years ago,) known this fruit, by the use of four of the natural senses, by hearing the name called, by its look, smell, and taste, I did not suppose, in a country where peaches grow, there could be any question on the subject.

The definition, then, of that peculiarly choice and delicious peach, which is the *only one* that I have known to bear the name of *Rare-ripe Peach*, is *very early, or earliest ripe peach*. Webster says: "Rare-ripe, or early ripe—ripe before others, or before the usual season." Rare-ripe, the noun—an *early fruit, particularly a kind of peach which ripens early*. Downing's description of the *Red Rare-ripe*, is, I think, a good one. It ripens the last of August, and, probably, is the only peach that ought to have the name of *Rare-ripe*. I have my doubts whether Morris's White *Rare-ripe* has the right name.

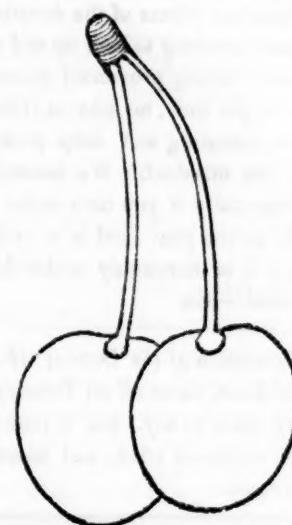
I am an old-fashioned man, and like to have things called by their right names. The people are sometimes basely imposed upon, by having fruits exposed for sale with false names. And so of other things. Great evil is done by those who practice deceit in this way. But let such remember that all deceiving is lying, and all liars will have their reward. "Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil."

Yours, truly,

I. W. R.

#### THE REINE HORTENSE CHERRY.

Fruit large, roundish oblong. Stalk about 1½ inches long, and rather slender. Skin very waxy—pale red, similar to *Belle de Choisy*.



Flesh pale amber colored, tender, juicy, and sweet. Stone medium size. Tree bears very early and abundantly; in its growth similar to *May Duke*—is very hardy, and valuable for northern localities. Ripens from the beginning and middle of July. It is one of the best for dwarfs. Cultivate on the Mahaleb; trees two bud will be nice bearing bushes.

#### THE DROUTH, WORM, FRUIT TREES, &c.

For the Michigan Farmer.

CLINTON, Macomb Co., June 18, 1850.

MR. WARREN ISHAM:

Dear Sir: We have had but little rain here for about two months past. The young trees that were set out this spring, have suffered very much from the drouth. The lice and the measuring worm have nearly devoured every bud and leaf that appeared on them notwithstanding our constant care and attention to keep them clean. The peach trees suffered the most; a frost came when they were in bloom after transplanting, and more than half of them have died. Next to them is the plum, and then the pear. Although the latter is a very hardy tree, I find most of them dead, notwithstanding I took uncommon care in transplanting, as recommended in the "Farmer." The cherry trees have suffered most from the worms; they did not leave a leaf, and, when their voracity abated, the trees had nothing but bare stems of the leaf. The apple trees escaped better than any other kind, and are in a more thriving condition since the rain which came on Friday evening, the 14th instant.

The corn has come up since the rain, and, by much attention, and kind nursing, may do well, with a few occasional showers.

#### CAMPBELL.

Our friend adds, that the wheat crop is fast recovering from the effects of the drouth, and people are again beginning to look up and smile.

The drouth having prevented summer fallowing at the proper time, he asks us if the same labor spent in manuring and deep plowing, would not repair the mischief. We answer, yes, and more too, especially if you turn under plenty of green stuff, unless your land is a stiff clay, and even then, if it is thoroughly under-drained and well cultivated.—ED.

*The Exhibition of the Detroit Horticultural Society*, for June, came off on Tuesday last. We have barely space to say, that it reminded us of the glorious scenes of 1848, and betokened better days to come.

#### For the Michigan Farmer. ON STACKING HAY.

CLINTON, June 11th, 1850.

Friend Isham:

Having a moment's leisure, and being in the "right mood," I have sat down to write a few thoughts for the "Farmer," on *stacking hay*. Should this article appear too late to benefit your readers this season, they can store it away in their memories for next year.

The result of my experience may be summed up in one short sentence, *make but one top to your stack*. It is the common practice of farmers to top up their stacks, let them settle a few days, and then, when they have become somewhat flattened, put on another top, and, in some instances, the third is added. In this way, I have known my neighbors to throw off as useless, from  $\frac{1}{2}$  to a ton, from the top of their stacks, at foddering time. My method is to *make but one top*—build the stack to the shoulders, (that is, to the point where the top is to commence,) let it stand a day or two to settle, then finish out. If rain is expected, some boards may be thrown over it; or, if no boards are to be had, make a slight top to serve until fair weather returns; then remove it, and make a permanent one. Stacking in this way, I usually find, after removing the first lock, the hay as bright as when put up.

The philosophy of the thing, I consider to be this: Every stack of hay forms a kind of sweat; it is driven off in the form of vapor, and accumulates on the surface, sometimes in such quantities as to render it very wet. When a second top is

added, it shuts in this moisture, and, thus being confined, it necessarily destroys all the hay that it comes in contact with. A portion of vapor is pressed up through the first top, and facilitates the decay of the second; whereas, if but one top is constructed, the vapor comes to the surface, and is evaporated; or, if not, it only injures that portion of the stack which the weather would spoil.

R. RANDALL, JR.

We are suffering very much here from drouth. The last rain we had was on April 28th. Some pieces of wheat appear to have arrived at the stand-still point; clover is in bloom at six inches' height; and corn planted nearly four weeks since, is yet dry in the hill.

R. R., JR.

#### For the Michigan Farmer.

### MICHIGAN STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The members of the Michigan State Legislature of the session of 1850, will please accept the thanks of the *Executive Committee* of the Michigan State Agricultural Society, for their very liberal donation to the library of the Society, of the Journals of the Senate and House, and the laws of Michigan from 1838 to the present time; also, copies of the Revised Statutes of 1838 and 1846.

Messrs. H. Blanchard & Co., of the Kinderhook Wool Depot, will also please accept the thanks of the Executive Committee, for eleven packages of wool, showing the manner in which wool is sorted at their establishment.

Persons wishing to examine the above, or any other articles in the Society's collection, can do so by calling upon the Secretary, at No. 108. Jefferson Avenue.

The Secretary, being very desirous of making a collection of samples of wool grown in Michigan, would be pleased to receive samples from the Michigan wool-growers, giving the name of the variety, weight of fleece, by whom, and at what place raised, and any other information respecting the samples, that donors may please to give. Donors can forward their samples by private conveyance, or through the Post-Office.

J. C. HOLMES,  
Sec'y Mich. State Ag. Soc.  
DETROIT, 20th June, 1850.

Since writing the above, I have received from John Kirk, of Dearborn, a sample of wool from his Southdown Buck; from G. M. Dewey, of Flint, four samples, as per the following memorandum.

J. C. HOLMES,  
Sec'y Mich. State Ag. Soc.

FLINT, June 18th, 1850.

SIR: Herewith I enclose to you samples from our flock of full-blood sheep.

No. 1 is a Buck, 21 months old; French Merino, crossed with a full-blood Paular Buck. The weight of the fleece was 10 9-16 lbs., washed.

No. 2, a full-blood Escorial Ewe. Weight of fleece, washed, 6 2-16 lbs.

No. 3, a full-blood Escorial Ewe. Weight of washed fleece, 4 3-16 lbs.

No. 4, a full-blood Escorial Ewe. Weight of fleece, washed, 6 5-16 lbs.

Yours, truly, G. M. DEWEY.

J. C. HOLMES, Esq.,  
Rec. Sec'y Mich. Ag. Soc.,  
Detroit.

#### VALUABLE SUGGESTION BY A LADY.

For the Michigan Farmer.

MR. EDITOR:

It seems to me that more politic measures might be taken by the farmers of our State, to furnish themselves with help. While the farmer is often obliged to hire at disadvantageous terms, and sometimes fails entirely, the gentleman of the city or village obtains labor at half its value, and is overburdened with applications.—What is the reason of this difference? It is because the poor man finds few shelters for his family among farmers. As a remedy for the evil, let every farmer build cheap cottages to rent, as soon as his means will admit, one, two, three or more, according to the size and situation of his farm; let them be built as cheap as regard to a tolerable degree of comfort will allow, and furnish them at the lowest rates. This would introduce a poor laboring population, who would be willing to work for such things as the farmer raises to feed their families with, and would not demand all cash. It is true, that sometimes idle or vicious inhabitants might get in, but they could soon be disposed of, and others introduced in their place; and on the other hand, many industrious persons, who would be a real help to community, in supporting schools, and working roads, would be glad to find a chance for respectable subsistence. If they were not all that we could wish in respect to moral principle, farmers would undoubtedly exert a powerful influence on their reformation, and if our schools were what they should be, their children might become far better than their parents. In this way, there might be raised up among us a noble, moral and industrious peasantry, (if you like the word) whose industry and economy would make them wealthy in the comforts of life. Deal generously with them, and be willing to sell small

patches of land to poor mechanics, and you will find the answer of a good conscience a rich reward.\* WOMAN.

Wheatland, Hillsdale Co., 6th mo. 7th, 1850.

\* "There is certainly more where that came from," and we hope that communications for the Farmer, upon other subjects, from the same source, will be forthcoming.

#### A USEFUL EXPEDIENT.

For the Michigan Farmer.

Editor Mich. Farmer:

Sir—do your readers all know how to plow under weeds that have got so tall that they wont plow under in the usual way?—Take a chain, say a small log chain, and fasten one end to the beam at the point where the iron of the plow passes through it, and the other end to the off horse's whiffletree, so that the chain will drag just forward of the mouldboard, and it will lay every thing straight, and you will cover it all up. This is very convenient in plowing summer follow, where chess and cockle, and other foul stuff, have got so high that it wont turn under--try it.

Oak Grove, Livingston Co., June 15th, 1850.

*The Wheat Crop.*—A correspondent, writing from Port Huron, St. Clair Co., having passed through parts of the Counties of Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Lapeer, and St. Clair, says: "I never saw the wheat crop look better than it does on the route I came, and corn and grass are improving very fast."

We have also had communications from nearly every County in the State, filled with expressions of joy and gladness, in view of the brightening prospects of the wheat crop since the rains. There are, of course, some local exceptions; but, taking the State as a whole, the universal testimony seems to be, that we have, at the present time, a fairer prospect of a good wheat crop, than we have had in the last five years; and yet, taking lessons from the past, we should temper our rejoicings with moderation.

*Wheeler's Overshot, Railway Horse Power and Threshing Machine.*—We have already expressed the hope, that this valuable machine would be extensively introduced into our State. The ordinary method of getting threshing done, is an immense drawback upon the profits of the farmer; whereas, by the use of this machine, he can do it all 'within himself.' Several small farmers might unite in the ownership of one. They are highly commended in the agricultural papers we've, by those who have used them. See advertisement.

For the Michigan Farmer.

MORE WORDS "FITLY SPOKEN"—ANOTHER LETTER FROM THAT POST-MASTEE—READ IT—EVERY LINE OF IT.

NORTH PLAINS, Ionia Co., June 10th, '50.

Mr. Isham, Dear Sir:

Once more I sit down to address a few lines to the numerous readers of Michigan Farmer—or, rather, I should say, thro' the medium of your excellent sheet, to the farmers of Michigan on the importance of sending communications to the "Farmer" for publication. In looking over the list of contributors to your paper, I find many counties in our State that are not represented, or in other words, there has not been communications from more than one half of them, if there has been as many. Now I would say to the readers of the Farmer, and to all that have an interest therein, let us hear from all parts, let all speak, let all contribute their mite towards disseminating useful knowledge throughout the entire area of our State.

Now I fancy it is a mistaken notion to think, that an editor of an agricultural paper can write the whole matter that appears in his paper, or that he can understand all the minutiae of agriculture fitted for the different locations of our country, and hence we may expect to hear complaints that the paper does not contain all that it should, which is invariably the case, when all depends on the writings of one man, or a very few. Now to remove this difficulty, let all put shoulder to the wheel, and give a helping hand, and there will be no fears but what we shall have a paper that will meet the wants of ALL. But say some, "I can't write anything that the editor will consider fit to appear in his columns." Did you ever try? If not, now is the time to begin, and if you have tried and failed, try again and you will succeed. In this way we can learn how others manage their farms, cattle, sheep, &c., and be able to choose from the many, the best course to pursue.

Another objection to writing by many is, that they have not raised their hundred bushels of corn per acre, or their 50 bushels of wheat, although they have tried. Then give us a statement of what you have done, and the cause of your failure, if you know it, or if not known, perhaps some one that reads your article can point it out to you, that you and others can avoid in future the mistake that caused your failure. In this way the whole of the readers of the Farmer can resolve themselves into a mutual benefit society that will pay a large dividend monthly, of useful and entertaining matter. Then they can say with some degree of truth, "*our paper*," and have it to reflect upon, that they are not drawing all from

others, but that we are all endeavoring to pass on the ball until Michigan will not be behind, of her sister states in the art of farming. We would dare say that there is not in every organized county, many that could write able and interesting articles. Yet how few employ themselves in doing so.

I have had your paper since you have held the editorial seat, and this county which contains 10,000 inhabitants, has not had eight communications credited to her. I know nothing of the number of copies of the Farmer taken here beyond this office and Ionia, but believe it to be considerable; but this I do know, that many that take the Farmer might write communications that would be interesting and instructive, and shall we not hear from them—shall we not hear from every county in the State—yea, from every town, let friend Isham be "flooded" with your doings, that he may have time after selecting such as shall think proper to fill up his paper with a visit different localities, to take "Notes by the Way," and by-the-bye, we should like to give him a greeting at our humble abode, and think we could show him something out of which he could at least manufacture one paragraph toward the other number of "Notes by the Way."

Now, friends, we have an able editor, I am proud to admit, yet I cannot concede the point, that with all his ability and study, he can make a good a paper without your help as he can with, and yet your help costs you nothing—you are growing wise every line you write, and benevolent in communicating your knowledge to others. If you have discovered anything new that is beneficial, communicate it for the benefit of others, or if you have discovered any thing that is detrimental, warn others of their danger, that it may be avoided. In this way we can give and communicate to others information of different varieties of grain or fruits, and where they can be obtained. I have in this way been able to get a certain variety of apple this last spring, which I would willingly have paid the price of the Michigan Farmer a year rather than not to have obtained. Perhaps I overrate the benefit to be derived from the course I urge, yet to me it seems of great value. It will not take from the usefulness and responsibility of the editor, yet it will greatly stay up his hands in the important work in which he is engaged, and convince him that others have the cause of improvement near their hearts.

To those ladies that so nobly sustain their department, permit me to say, go on—and may you be blessed in every deed, with all that can make life desirable.

And now, in conclusion, let me ask, how many will respond to the earnest and repeated calls of the editor, that he may hear from you all. Do not be offended if your efforts are not considered worthy a place in one of the best agricultural papers now published, but try again, and you will succeed, or to use the language of one in the last No., be admitted among the ablest class of con-

tributors any paper can boast of in the Union.  
Respectfully your

ob't serv't, H.

### REMARKS.

We hope the above very pertinent appeal will be heeded. Why should it not be? We know of individuals in every county of any considerable population in the State, who would be able to furnish much useful information for the Farmer, and a great many of them too, who have never yet written a line. And why have they not?—Why? And echoes answers "why." Is it because they are too niggardly—too much wrapped up in self, and too little imbued with the spirit of philanthropy? But are you not willing to go as far as the Pharisees and Hypocrites of old did, viz.: do good to others for the sake of getting good from them in return? By communicating useful information for the benefit of others, you encourage and provoke others to do the same, and thus, however selfish you may mutually be, you will stand a chance to reap an equal mutual advantage. Will you not? Say. Why then do you not write? "Why," comes echoing back again.

Do you say you *can't?* *Indeed!* Can you talk? Can you not argue the chess question by the hour together, sitting upon the corner of the fence? And do you not love to argue on every subject that happens to come up, as well as you love to eat when you are hungry? Do you not write letters to your friends at the East, just as you would talk to them, if they were present, telling them all about your affairs? And can you not write a letter to us, telling us about your success and your failures, and the reasons, if you know them? Or if you do not, can you not ask for information? In the language of our correspondent, we say, "*try and see.*"

We would say to friend B. and other friends, who have invited us to visit the Grand River Valley, that we have a strong desire to pay our respects to that highly important section of our state, but it is uncertain how soon we shall be able to carry our purpose into effect.—ED.

*Q.F.* The Pontiac Jacksonian thinks from present appearances, the amount of wool marketed at Pontiac the present season, will not fall short of 350,000 lbs. Last year, if our recollection serves, it amounted to only 230,000 lbs. The price of wool this year has averaged at least six cents per pound more than it did last. Col. Moseley, of Union City, informed us that he obtained 8½ cents more this year in Marshall than last year in Detroit.

### For the Michigan Farmer, ON MANURES.

(Concluded from last number.)

*Green Crops for Manure*—By the system of farming prevalent in Michigan, a sufficient quantity of manure is not made to keep up the fertility of the soil. To supply this deficiency, green crops should be plowed in. These collect their ingredients principally from the atmosphere, and thus supply them to the soil, and they produce by decomposition nearly the same substances as barn-yard manure; though perhaps they are still *better*, as they have not been deprived of the elements necessary to the development of seed, or the support of animal life. It is a mistake to suppose, that animals possess a peculiar power of imparting virtues to the food on which they act. The fact is, they extract their sustenance therefrom, and thereby deprive it of some of its soil-feeding properties, and "feed" plowed in is of much more value than the manure which might be made from it by feeding.

*Ashes*, form a valuable manure. An amount of potash is necessary to fertility, and this ashes will supply. If applied as a top dressing to meadows, or to corn, or fruit trees, it greatly increases the crop. To sell ashes is the very opposite to economy.

*Swamp Muck*.—There are great quantities of this within the borders of our state, which by composting with lime, might be profitably used as manure, on light, sandy, and porous soils, near which it is often found. It would enrich and render them more adhesive and retentive of moisture.

*Plaster*, is a very valuable fertilizer. Besides the property mentioned above, of fixing the volatile parts of manure, it attracts useful gases, and absorbs moisture, from the atmosphere, by means of its sulphuric properties. Being composed partly of lime, it promotes decomposition, and serves directly as the food of plants. It should be applied to such crops as depend most on the atmosphere for food, as clover, corn, cabbage, &c. When applied to the manure heap it is most profitably employed.

*Lime*, is necessary under some circumstances, and on some soils. Besides being a food of plants, it hastens the decomposition of other manures, destroys noxious weeds and insects, corrects the acidity of soils, gives rise to sweet herbage, and performs other useful agencies. It should have a good basis of vegetable matter on which to act.

There are many other manures and fertilizers, but the above kinds are perhaps, the most available, and it is believed, will all pay for their application in produce. They should however, be used with discrimination. It would be folly to apply lime to a soil deficient in vegetable matter, as it would have nothing to act upon, and would be useless. To apply barn-yard manure to soils

abounding in decaying vegetable matter, would be equally bad policy. It is only by manuring in proper proportion, or with reference to the wants of the soil, that its greatest benefit can be obtained.

Let it not be supposed that manuring or any other single branch of husbandry is sufficient to ensure good crops. This is but a basis, and needs the co-operation of other branches. The labor and cost of manuring will be lost, to a great extent, unless the proper crops are allowed to appropriate the elements supplied thereby.

Emmett, April 15, 1850. J. S.

#### ABOUT POTATES, &c.

Isham, Esq.\*

Sir—I subscribed for the Michigan Farmer in April, and would like to get the back numbers, as I calculate to have it bound, and keep it as choice as I would its weight in gold.

One word about raising potatoes. Many farmers (or who pretend to be farmers and yet ought not to bear the name) plant their potatoes on low wet ground. This is not the way. Plant your potatoes on rich, dry ground, and hoe them well two or three times. If you wish to raise large potatoes, plant large ones. I would like to write for your paper, if my articles were worthy a place in its columns.\* Wishing you all the success your indefatigable labors merit, I subscribe myself,

Truly yours, &c.

D. C. HOWELL.

Kinderhook, Branch co., May 10th.

\* Write —ED.

#### MORE AGRICULTURAL DARKNESS.

June 10th, 1840.

Mr. Isham, Sir:

I have taken your paper 1 year last May, and am highly pleased with it, having received many good instructions from its columns. I have advised my neighbors to send for it, but they think they know it all. You would think so too, to see their fine crops of sorrel and weeds.— They will curse the bad seasons and poor land, while, if they would follow the advice of your paper, they would have much better luck, better seasons, better land, better crops. I enclose one dollar for the same, hoping it may still flourish.

Yours, N. G. PIKE.

#### DETROIT SEED STORE And Agricultural Warehouse!

GARDEN, FIELD, AND FLOWER SEEDS,  
IMPORTED Flower Roots, Agricultural Implements and Machines, Scarbeck's Troy Plow, Ruggles Nourse & Mason's Eagle Plow, and Wisconsin Plow, Gram's Fanning mills, Riche's straw-cutters, Emery's corn-planers and sub-drills, washing machines, corn-shellers, cultivators, thermometer churning, &c. &c.

...ALSO...

Agents for the sale of Wheeler's Patent Improved Portable Rail Road Horse Power and Over-shoe Threshers, and Separators.

F. F. PARKER & BROTHER,  
my 1 81 Woodward Avenue.

Mr. Jacob Loop, states, in the Genesee Farmer, that he formerly sowed unripe seed wheat, and always had smut. Latterly he lets his wheat for seed stand till it gets fully ripe, and has no smut.

#### DETROIT PRICE CURRENT,

Herd's Grass, bu	200 Salt,	\$1 11 5
Flax, bu	125 Butter,	10
Linen, bbl	70 Eggs, doz	9
Flour, bbl.	\$5 50 Hides, lb	3 6 1
Corn, bu	50 Wheat, bu	100
Oats,	37 Hams, lb	6
Rye,	37 Onions, bu	50 6 1
Barley,	75 Cranberries,	2 00
Hogs, 100 lbs	3 00 Buckwheat, 100 lbs	1 75
Apples, bu	1 00 Indian Meal, "	1 12 1
Potatoes,	50 Beef, "	5 00
Hay, ton	8 00 Lard, lb retail	7
Wool, lb	18 40 Honey,	10
Peas, bu	100 Apples, dried	2 00
Beans,	100 Peaches, do	2 50
Beef, bbl	64 7 00 Clover Seed, bu	5 00
Pork,	84 11 00 Pine Lumber, clear \$20 thou.	
White Fish,	6 4 5 50 Second clear	15 "
Trout,	3 50 6 50 Bill Lumber	11 "
Cod Fish, lb	5 4 5 2 Flooring	12 "
Cheese,	6 Common	10 "
Wood, cord	2 2 2 5 Lath	2 "

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#### WINTER SEASON—1849-50. CLOTHING FOR THE MILLION! EAGLE & ELLIOTT,

HAVING completed their fall purchase, are now prepared to offer for sale an extensive and complete assortment, comprising 50,000 garments of every grade, quality and size, to be had in the market. Among which may be found the most fashionable as well as the most substantial. Manufactured in Philadelphia, mechanically cut, and unsurpassed in neatness of pattern and design, purchased particularly for this market, and for the winter season of 1849-50.

Merchants in the interior, and in foreign parts of Canada, are invited to call at No. 61, Woodward Avenue, and examine the extensive stock of the subscribers. Having purchased their entire stock this season, in the Philadelphia market, they can offer a great variety of styles and sizes, and sell their goods to wholesale purchasers at New York wholesale prices; or at quotations to suit purchasers, at their usual low and satisfactory prices.

No. 61, Woodward Avenue, Larned Block, nearly opposite the Presbyterian Church, Detroit.

**WHEELER, MELICK, & CO.,**  
**PATENTEES AND MANUFACTURERS OF**  
*Wheeler's Patent Improved Railway Chain Horse Powers.*



**OVERTHROW THRESHERS,**

*With Vibrating Separators; and of other Agricultural Machines.*  
 The undersigned having secured of WHEELER, MELICK & CO., an agency for the sale of their celebrated Machines, are prepared to furnish them at manufacturers' prices.

**THE TWO HORSE MACHINE** is extensively used, not only by Farmers, but also by persons who make Threshing a business for the season. It is so compact and portable, that the whole Machine is easily loaded on a common two horse wagon; or when to be moved often from place to place, is mounted on wheels, so that two men can get it in order for threshing in a few minutes, and remount it for moving with the same ease. With from 3 to 5 hands it will thresh from 125 to 200 bushels of wheat, or twice the quantity of oats, per day.

**THE ONE HORSE MACHINE**, attended by two or three men will thresh from 60 to 100 bushels of wheat per day. It may be worked on a single zed in floor without inconvenience. This Machine has been most used in the Eastern States, where threshing is chiefly done in barns, and in the winter season; but it is also very highly recommended by Farmers in the Western States who have used it.

**THE ONE HORSE POWER** is adapted to various other purposes; such as driving Circular and Vertical Saws, Feed Cutters, Corn Shellers, Boring Machines, Grind Stones, Pumps, &c.

**These Horse Powers**, (both One and Two Horse,) are strong and durable, with the gearing simply arranged, and not liable to get out of order, and run extremely light. With slight elevation, the weight alone of the Horses affords sufficient power to thresh as before stated, or to drive the other Machines before mentioned.

**THE OVERTHROW THRESHER** is worked more conveniently and with less power than the Underthow or Common Thresher, and not scatter grain or drive dust towards the workmen.

**THE VIBRATING SEPARATOR** effectually divides the Grain from the Straw, leaving the former in the best order for cleaning; and when expedient or convenient makes it desirable, a Flailing Mill may be attached to, and driven by the same Horse Power.

**CIRCULAR SAW MILL**—This Mill is driven by a One Horse Power, and attended by two men; saws from 10 to 15 cords of wood twice or two, per day.

**STALK AND STRAW CUTTER**—This is a most excellent Machine, and is much used. It cuts fine and extremely fast. Stalks are cut by three-eights of an inch long, and at the rate of from 300 to 500 sheaves per day, with a One Horse Power.

The foregoing is brief and fair statement of the qualities and character of our Machines. Probably a larger number of our Powers and Threshers are made and sold than of any other kind. Two of our firm have had 17 years' experience in manufacturing Threshing Machines of various kinds, and are the INVENTORS AND PATENTEES of these Horse Powers. A few were made in 1841 and 1842, which are still good and in use. Since then the demand for them has steadily increased, and we are now preparing to complete 1000 Machines this season. One of our Agents alone, (Mr. H. L. EMERY, of Albany,) sold nearly 200 Machines for us during the last year. Hundreds of Letters, Recommendations, and Notices in Agricultural Papers, Premiums at State and County Fair, and other Testimonials can be shown to corroborate our advertising statements; but as all Machines made and sold by us or our agents, are

**WARRANTED**

not only to perform as stated, but to give satisfaction to the Purchaser.

We deem it unnecessary to give them here. For more detailed information, or for the purpose of ordering Machines, address the subscribers at Detroit.

F. F. PARKER & BRO.

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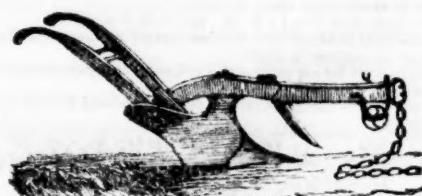
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 128, Nassau Street, New York.

To Publishers of Newspapers throughout the United States.

\* \* Newspapers copying this advertisement entire, displayed as above, without any alteration or abridgment, including this notice, and giving it two insertions, shall receive a copy of any one of our \$2 50 or 3 00 works, subject to their order, by mailing direct to the publisher.

\* \* No letter will be taken from the office unless a copy is paid



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 Agricultural Implements.**

The subscribers offer for sale, on reasonable terms, a general assortment of Stoves, Tin, Copper, Sheet Iron, and Hollow ware, of every description.

—ALSO—

An assortment of agricultural implements, including Peckshill, Eagle, Wisconsin and Michigan Plows, Cultivators, Cradles, Scythes, Hoes, Rakes, Shovels, Scrapers, Forks, Churns (atmosphere) Wash Boards, &c., &c.

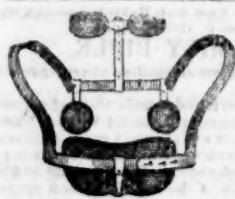
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em, in the case of both ladies and gentlemen, partcularly in the case of weakness and spinal deformities, so common to children and sedentary gentlemen in this climate.

The principle on which these affections are relieved by the brace

1st. By firmly supporting the loins or weak part of the back, pushing it forward under the shoulder, and thereby balancing the latter upon the body's axis.

2d. By lifting, but not compressing the sunken abdomen; also removing a dragging from the parts above, thereby expanding the waist and chest and strengthening the whole body by the consequent upward and outward bracing of the supported organs; an action and principle entirely different from that of corsets and shoulder braces, removing all desire for, or propriety in their use.

The medical profession are invited to call.

A lady in attendance upon ladies.

Rooms open from 9 to 12 A. M., and from 2 to 8 P. M.

Patients unable to go out will be visited at their dwellings, whenever the request is made.

Physicians can be supplied with the braces at a liberal discount at wholesale.

Also, the braces can be obtained of Dr. Thomas B. Clark, on Jefferson Ave.

## NEW WOOL CLIP.

CASH FOR 300,000 lbs. OF WOOL.

THE subscriber having made extensive arrangements with eastern manufacturers, are prepared to pay the highest price in cash for 300,000 lbs. of good fleece wool.

The utmost pains should be taken to have the wool thoroughly cleansed, and free from all tag-locks and burrs. The wool growers of Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Washtenaw, Livingston, Genesee, and adjoining counties will find it decided for their interest to bring their wool to us, as we shall be able to pay a higher price than those who buy on speculation.

We wish the Farmers distinctly to understand that we are not buying on speculation, as most others do, but we buy for manufacturers, thus enabling us to give them the entire benefit of manufacturers prices. If the growers will bring the wool to us we will guarantee them the highest manufacturer's price, but if they prefer to sell it nearer home to speculators, they need not expect full value for their wool.

Every one knows the wool eventually goes to manufacturers for the purpose of being manufactured into cloth, and if they are obliged to buy it after passing through the hands of three, two, or even one speculator the difference in price comes out of the pockets of the farmers. Remember Detroit will be the market for the sale of wool.

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63 Woodward Avenue.

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THE undersigned, having located themselves permanently in the City of Detroit, beg leave to call the attention of the people of this State, to their No., being 150, Jefferson Avenue, where is to be found a general assortment of Books, pertaining to Agriculture, Horsemanship, &c., &c., and where subscriptions are received for all "Agricultural Papers" published in this country.

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a complete assortment of School, Classical, Medical, Law and Miscellaneous books, together with a large assortment of stationery and Paper Hangings, and Borders to match.

For sale Wholesale and Retail, by

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Detroit, Jan'y 1st, 1850.

SMITH'S Patent Ventilating Smut Machine—

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Detroit, Jan'y 1850.

SOLDIERS AND VOLUNTEERS !

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All who enlisted for 5 years, or during the war of 1812, before 25th Dec., 1811, and never received the same, are entitled to 160 acres of land; all enlisted after that time, for like period, to 80 acres of land. All who served in Mexico, including volunteers, entitled to 3 months' extra pay and 160 acres of land. The land and money will be procured for those entitled, by writing to G. F. LEWIS, Banker, &c., Detroit, Michigan. Communications from any part of the United States promptly attended to. Write particularly the name of the Post Office, County, and State to which the answer is to be sent.

I have the names of those who were killed in the Mexican war, and will furnish any information to the relatives, free of charge.

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